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# MOVE TO BOOST SPORT AT PARK

Report by Lee Watton

A BLACK Country park is in line for a £500,000 makeover, including new sports pitches, changing rooms, a community centre and extra parking.

People have been calling for improvements to Homer Hill Park in Cradley for years. This week campaigner hailed the news that plans have now been submitted to the council as 'wonderful and a massive boost'.

The scheme includes the creation of a sports pavilion, new flood-lit pitches and changing rooms.

Other improvements earmarked for the site include converting the under-used basketball courts into extra car parking and building a new community room.

Hundreds of footballers use the park, including Halas Hawks which has 24 teams.

Secretary Bob Hickman said: "Generally, we have around 60 or 70 players using the pitches on the park every weekend and this will be a boost to the youngsters."

## Needed

"Improvements to the park have been needed for some time so it is great these plans have now been submitted."

It is hoped the scheme will be approved by planners by the end of this year.

Councillor Richard Body, who has campaigned for improvements to the park in Homer Hill Road for years, said: "It is wonderful this scheme has now been submitted to the council. "Hopefully a decision will be made quickly and this work can begin. I am certainly not expecting any objections."

"Improvements are desperately needed at the park, which is a very well-used facility."

"The additional parking will mean more community events can be held and make things easier for those who use the park regularly."

"A lot of football teams use the park and this will be a massive boost for them."

The project has been funded by £250,000 from the sale of the old Cradley High School site, which has now been developed into apartments for older people, and the same amount in match funding.

Changing rooms are currently provided in two temporary mobile buildings at the park, which have been used for several years. Under the plans, the former park office of the council's Green Care maintenance team will house changing rooms, plus modern toilets and showers.

A community room will be added to the side of the building along with more toilets and baby-changing facilities.

The existing changing room buildings will be removed and flood-lit sports pitches created in their place and fenced.

## CLASSY GLASS BONUS FOR PUB'S NEW LANDLADY



Bright idea — new landlady Sara Harvey discovered a decorative stained glass window that had been covered up for half a century

IT has been hidden for 50 years but now a charming stained glass window has been uncovered at a Black Country pub and restored to its former glory.

The stunning window was found at The Wheatsheaf in Turner's Hill, Rowley Regis, during a revamp of the building which dates back to the 1930s.

New landlady Sara Harvey said she could not believe her eyes when she discovered the window hidden behind several boards.

"I bought the pub nine weeks ago and I wanted to re-decorate and bring it back to

life," she said. "I was looking into fixing the air conditioning when I discovered a false ceiling that was put in after the war. I removed several boards to find behind this beautiful stained glass window was displayed."

"I was so stunned at what I had found. Unless you see it in person you can't really take it in, as when the light is shining through it looks amazing. It has really brought the pub to life."

"It was near enough in perfect condition but I cleaned each bit of it myself to make it look pristine."

"There were no broken or missing pieces of it — it was just breathtaking."

The window sits underneath the main sign of the pub and is now visible from the outside.

The leaded stained glass depicts the scene of a wheatsheaf to the backdrop of the sun, with its rays as individual glass panes. Doves are also featured.

It is thought that the window may have been covered during the 1950s due to changing fashions.

Miss Harvey has now bought spotlights to make the window look extra special at night.

## E-CIGARETTES

Vaping may be used to help kick the habit

SMOKERS in Sandwell could become some of the first in the country to be given e-cigarettes for free to help them quit.

Councillors in Sandwell claimed the use of e-cigarettes would help some of the borough's 55,000 smokers kick the habit.

Kits cost on average around £20 and replacement fluid about £10-a-week for smokers trying to stop.

It comes after Public Health England said e-cigarettes are 95 per cent less harmful than tobacco. The health body says that e-cigarettes could be prescribed on the NHS in future to help smokers quit.

## HOUSING

Plan for new homes near beauty spot

A CARE home and new houses could be built on land near to a Tipton nature reserve.

Under re-submitted plans, a residential home with 18 apartments for supported living would be built on the site in Johns Lane, near to Sheepwash Local Nature Reserve. There would also be 18 houses at the site.

The scheme has been re-submitted to Sandwell Council and will be considered later in the year. Access to the site would be from Johns Lane.

## VIEWERS

Millions watched Lenny's TV drama

MILLIONS of viewers tuned in on Monday to watch the 'fantasy memoir' written by Dudley's favourite son, Sir Lenny Henry.

Danny and the Human Zoo, which aired at 9pm on BBC1, was a loose re-telling of the star's teenage years in the town during the 1970s.

It was filmed on location in the Black Country, including at Dudley Zoo, Boffery Park, the town's canal and the Netherton Tunnel.

Wednesbury resident Kascion Franklin starred as Danny Fearon — a fictional character based on the young Lenny — in his first lead role in a television play.

## INSIDE

HISTORY IS SET IN STONE



PAGE 8



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MARK ANDREWS	6
LETTERS	7
MEMORY LANE	8
DANIEL WAINWRIGHT	11
THE FAST TICKET	21
PROPERTY	29
MOTORING	36
SPORT	39 & 40
CONTACT US	

Editorial:  
Tel: 01384 353202  
E-mail: dudley.chrons@expressandstar.co.uk

Sports:  
Tel: 01902 319453  
E-mail: chron.sport@expressandstar.co.uk

Photographic:  
Tel: John Samuels 01902 319431

Advertising: Nicola Cope

Tel: 01902 319573  
E-mail: nicola.cope@expressandstar.co.uk

Property: Marguerita Finnegan

Tel: 01902 319627  
E-mail: marguerita.finnegan@expressandstar.co.uk

Motoring: Liz Barratt

Tel: 01384 353244  
E-mail: liz.barratt@expressandstar.co.uk

Classified:  
Tel: 01902 317878  
E-mail: my-classified@expressandstar.co.uk

Distribution: Paul Jones

Tel: 01902 319990  
E-mail: p.jones@expressandstar.co.uk

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# Lucky escape for a driver in accident



Picture by Haden Cross Fire

A DRIVER had a lucky escape after his car left the road and crashed into a tree in Dudley.

Emergency services were called around 5.30pm on Tuesday, August 25, to St Peter's Road, Netherton, after the car came off the street and ended up on its side on a grass embankment between lamp-posts and trees.

The car rolled down the embankment and was left badly damaged with its roof caving in.

The incident followed hours of heavy rain. The driver, a man in his 20s, was not badly hurt.

He managed to climb out of the vehicle himself by squeezing through the sunroof before emergency services arrived.

The road was closed for around half an hour as the car was pulled from the embankment.

## Minor

Paramedics, firefighters from Haden Cross station and police attended.

Fire chiefs said the driver was 'very lucky' to escape serious injury.

Fire service spokesman Matthew Smith said the driver had suffered minor injuries. He was checked over by

paramedics at the scene and taken to Russells Hall Hospital as a precaution.

Mr Smith said: "One motor vehicle left the roadway and came to a rest on a grass verge on its side.

"No persons were trapped and one man removed himself from the vehicle prior to our arrival."

West Midlands Ambulance spokesman Jamie Arrowsmith said: "Apart from a few cuts to the back of his head, the male avoided any serious injury.

"He was immobilised as a precaution and taken to Russells Hall."

# Educational programmes at museum earn award

THE Black Country Living Museum has received a prestigious award for its onsite educational programmes and activities.

Recognising educational excellence, the Sandford Award looks at both formal and informal learning programmes to assess the impact on all visitors.

Around a quarter of the attraction's visitors are school groups since the Dudley museum caters for all key stages, providing a rich learning environment as well as a wealth of engaging, curriculum-linked workshops and activities.

These can include anything from Key Stage 2's History Detectives where classes will investigate the real lives of Black Country children from 1850-1945 to Age of Steam workshops where students will step inside a full-size replica of the world's very first steam engine.

## Engaging

Mel Weatherly, Head of learning, said: "We are absolutely delighted to have won this award."

"We strive to provide engaging learning experiences of the highest quality and historical authenticity for all our visitors, so it is fantastic to have this recognised."

"The award is a credit to the hard work and expertise of all our staff and volunteers."

Approximately 270,000 people visit the open-air museum each year to learn about one of the world's first industrial landscapes.

# Uni honour for TV scriptwriter

THE writer of hit TV show Peaky Blinders is to receive an honorary doctorate from Birmingham City University.

Steven Knight, who was raised in Birmingham, is behind the show about the notorious crime gang, which filmed a number of scenes at the Black Country Living Museum in Dudley. He is being honoured in recognition of his achievements in the creative industries.

Knight has had four novels published and co-created the TV gameshow Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?

"I am deeply honoured and thrilled to be receiving this award from Birmingham City University," he said.

"I've always been proud of Birmingham - for what the city has achieved in the past and for its potential in the future."

# Plans lodged for veterinary surgery

A HAIRDRESSER'S shop could be turned into a veterinary surgery.

Darren Jennings from Manor Vets has applied to Dudley Council for a change of use for 111 Kent Road in Halesowen. The premises would be used mainly for 'CT scanning and associated services'.

# Cannabis haul found at former charity base

## Hair apparent takes over at salon



New boss Clare Merriman, of Stourbridge, taking over from Derek Johnson at Clare Martyn Hair & Beauty

A HAIR salon boss in Cradley Heath has handed over the scissors to a new owner after 47 years of the business being in the same family.

The Clare Martyn salon in Lower High Street has been run by husband and wife duo Derek and Sylvia Johnson since 1968, but will now be taken over by stylist Clare Merriman.

But Mr Johnson, 70, from Stourport, said he believes Ms Merriman has the ambition and drive to take

the salon to new heights. He said: "It is emotional to let go of the salon, as it was a huge part of our lives, but Clare has great ideas and a business brain so I am confident that she will do well."

"I'm going to stay in touch to make sure I'm on hand if the girls need any help."

Mr Johnson added: "In the 1970s we had two sunbeds and my wife introduced beauty treatments as well as doing hair."

"We used to be based in St Annes

Road until we moved to where we are now in the 70s."

"My wife sadly passed away seven years ago but we continued to run it in her memory."

"We still have clients who come in from 40 years ago, who are very loyal and like part of the family."

Ms Merriman, aged 25, started as an apprentice at the salon ten years ago.

She has already introduced a range of new services including a nail bar.

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# Idea to lock park gates over night is scrapped

CONTROVERSIAL plans to lock the gates at Warley Woods at night following a spate of vandalism have been scrapped.

Bosses were considering locking pedestrian gates between the hours of 6pm and 9am on a trial basis. But the proposal has now been dropped by Warley Woods Community Trust after it proved unpopular with visitors.

Bosses have decided to look at other options to deter troublemakers.

Cameras and security patrols of the 100-acre site are among the suggestions put forward by the community, following damage caused to the golf course at the popular beauty spot.

Dozens attended a public meeting last month to object to the plans to lock the gates opposite Lenwade Road and Grove Road.

Board members at Warley Woods Community Trust have been considering their views and have decided not to press ahead with the trial.

They say damage has left them out of pocket because of repeatedly having to clear up after the vandals and fear it will put golfers off visiting.

Trust chairman Steve Eling, who is also a ward councillor, said: "The board met and gave detailed consideration to the problems and issues raised.

"As a result, the Trust will not proceed with the pilot scheme of locking the gates at night.

"There is, however, still serious concern about the on-going levels of damage to the golf course."

## Store plan at pub to go ahead

ELEVENTH hour talks with Marston's have ended in disappointment for campaigners fighting to save a popular pub.

Bill Etheridge MEP, who has led the campaign to prevent the Seven Stars in Sedgley, from being turned into a Morrisons supermarket, met with Marston's boss Ralph Findlay.

The Sedgley councillor said Mr Findlay confirmed the plans would go ahead. Dudley Council had refused permission but an appeal was upheld by the Planning Inspectorate.

He said: "I will not give up on trying to save this pub until the doors close."

Last month up to 20 campaigners from the pub protested against the closure outside the brewers' offices in Wolverhampton.

## Body found in car parked at hospital

THE body of a woman was found in a car in the grounds of Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital on Friday.

It comes after a 46-year-old woman was reported missing. The death is not being treated as suspicious.

# Riding high with so much to do at show



Stuntmen Paul Hannam and Matt Coulter

FROM high-wire acts to trick riding and强man stunts – there was plenty to enjoy for the thousands of visitors who flocked to the annual Sandwell Show at the weekend.

Stunt riders on quad bikes showed off their skills in the main arena at Sandwell Valley Country Park while there was also a trick riding exhibition from The Devil's Horsemen.

Musclemen competed for the title of Sandwell's Strongest Man while there were fruit and vegetable growing contests and scores of other offerings dotted around the site.

Crowds were wowed by the Devil's Horsemen. Karina Essery, 45, has been with the horsemen for more than two decades. She said the group – which has featured on TV series including Game of Thrones – loves playing in front of a live audience.

Their show had two parts, a Cosack trick riding section and a Wild West-themed finale.

"We're so happy to be here, it's always great to see the audience reaction and them enjoying themselves," Mrs Essery said.

Carl Harding attended the event

with his wife Kim, 11-year-old daughter Millie and the family's Yorkshire terrier Maisie.

Mr Harding, 57, from Willenhall, said: "It's a great family day out. I also think Sandwell Valley Park is the jewel in the crown for West Bromwich."

This year's show also included a Bernie Bennett high-wire show, heavy horse logging demonstrations, the Rideside Lurchers dog display team, and a falconry display. A real ale and cider bar and a market were also laid on for visitors.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Damage caused at shopping centre

YOBs have caused damage to the roof of Stourbridge's Ryemarke Shopping Centre. Shoppers and staff have reported anti-social behaviour at the centre's car park.

Police say they have given two warning letter to youths.

Sgt Andy Holder from Wollaston and Stourbridge Town neighbourhood police team said: "Officers will continue with regular patrols at various times of the stairwell and car park areas.

"There has also been a report of criminal damage to the centre roof."

### Music for all at community day

MUSIC to suit all tastes will be performed at a community day held to celebrate all that is good about Dudley borough.

Visitors will be able to enjoy rock, acoustic and choir performances at the Dudley Community Day event on September 19. It will run from 10am until 4pm in Dudley town centre.

Bands taking part include Effunko, Dead Happy, Bloco Louco, Target by Numbers and Archive.

There will also be performances by NN Dance & Cheer and a church choir and two drumming performances.

### Microsoft course set up at college

DUDLEY College students will have access to some of the most advanced computer courses in the West Midlands following the launch of a Microsoft Office Specialist qualification.

The college joins more than 15,000 Microsoft IT Academies around the world.

The part-time course starts this month on Tuesday evenings at the Broadway Campus and will include specialist modules in Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint.

### Healthy eating is on menu for next course

A COOKING course is being offered up to residents in Gornal to encourage healthier eating and increased physical activity.

Get Cooking! is a six week course that will help attendees cook healthy dishes on a budget.

The next course will start on Monday at Upper Gornal Pentecostal Church, in Eve Lane.

The latest course will run between 1.30pm and 3.30pm and will continue each Monday until October 12.

### Car flips in accident

A CAR ended up on its roof in Wordsley. Four teenagers who were travelling in the vehicle escaped serious injury after the accident on Brierley Hill Road just before 7pm on Sunday.

A 17 year-old girl suffered a cut to her forehead. Another girl, 17, and two men aged 19 had minor injuries.

# Council finances are 'heading towards a cliff'

COUNCIL budgets 'are heading towards a cliff' because of £10 billion worth of extra costs, says a long-serving Dudley councillor.

Reviews of business rates, cuts in rents and a planned increase in the minimum wage will add to the difficult decisions faced by councils already reeling from cuts to their Government grants, says former Dudley Council leader Councillor David Sparks.

The past chairman of The Local Government Association (LGA), which represents 370 authorities in England and Wales, says the Chancellor risks putting a burden on councils that can only be met by scaling back services or cutting them completely.

"Local government finance has been heading towards a cliff for several years," said Councillor Sparks. "The decision to further reduce the ability of local authorities to control their costs brings that cliff nearer and nearer."

"The LGA has to fight this Government's proposals as they mean it is going to be increasingly difficult, if not impossible, in local authorities like Dudley to make ends in future years."

#### Reduce

Dudley Council is trying to reduce its spending by £30 million a year as cuts have become a way of life across the West Midlands. But the LGA believes the upcoming spending review in November will bring new pressures.

It has calculated Government policies over the next five years will cost councils £6.3 billion by 2020. This is on top of the £3.6 billion to maintain services at their current level based on demand and inflation.

Costs include exempting house builders from Section 106 payments, which are levies placed on developers to fund road layouts and other local projects. The Government believes removing these levies, worth on average £15,000 per home, will get 200,000 starter homes built as developers pass on the saving.

Other pressures include setting aside £1.75 billion to cover the high volume of business rate appeals expected after the 2017 revaluation.

Also, councils are expecting to have to face costs when Universal Credit is rolled out to housing benefit claimants. The claimants will get the money paid directly to them, rather than the councils, meaning authorities will have to chase those who get into debt.



Rev Leon Evans looks at the damage to the main stage and baptism pool in the auditorium at the Zion Christian Centre in Halesowen

### Church struck by fire

THIS is the scene of devastation caused by a fire at a church in Halesowen.

The blaze, believed to have started due to an electrical fault, tore through Zion Christian Centre at around 4.30am on Sunday.

Gaping holes have been left in the floor at the centre's auditorium with the ceiling panels left exposed and surfaces charred.

Blackened walls are cracked and caked in soot after smoke filled the church in Little Cornbow.

Further damage has been caused in the offices and meetings rooms at the centre.

A salon, which is below the stage of the auditorium on the ground floor, was also hit in the fire and huge pools of water have collected on its floor after 40 firefighters tackled the flames.

Church members have only just been able to go into the church to start getting to grips with the damage.

Rev Leon Evans, who has been the pastor for 15 years, said insurance assessors were looking at the damage, which is extensive but final costs were still being calculated.

## Independent Family Owned Funeral Directors

### About The Company

Trevor E.W. Hickton Funeral Directors are a long established firm based in Cradley Heath. Formerly known as J.E.W. Hickton & Sons the company was established in 1909 and has been serving Cradley Heath, Halesowen and all the surrounding towns and areas since. In 1909 Joe Hickton a well known carpenter, builder, undertaker, local councillor and one time Mayor of Rowley Regis, opened a dedicated funeral home located in Lower High Street, Cradley Heath to focus on the funeral directing side of business. Along with his wife Rose, the local midwife, they became a large part of the local community, with the local saying "she brings them in to the world, and he takes them out!" Their son William "Bill" Hickton came in to the business in 1937 and the father and son partnership began carrying out funerals across Cradley Heath and the surrounding areas, with Bill eventually taking over the business in 1957 after Joe retired. Bill's son Trevor came in to the business in 1971 working closely with his father to continue building the company reputation.

Trevor inherited J. E. W. Hickton Funeral Directors after his father Bill passed away in 2000. In 2005 the company was registered as a Limited UK company along with a name change to what it is today, Trevor E.W. Hickton Ltd Funeral Directors. Trevor's son Ross came in to the business in 2006,

followed by his other son Greg in 2010 and finally by his daughter Jodie in 2014

The family all work together along with a team of long standing and hard working staff. The office staff comprise of former Springfield Post Office manager Mandy Parsons, who looks after the on going funeral arrangements assisted by Jodie, and Kate Davis who has worked for the company for 15 years. Kate is also the company Stone Masonry manager.

In 2014 a brand new dedicated funeral home was built on the grounds of the original funeral home in Lower High Street, to support the needs of the business. Now with three private chapels of rest, three family arrangement rooms and a private working office. The company is able to cater to all needs and requirements of their clients in a friendly and inviting funeral home.

In 2015 the decision was made to renovate the funeral home in Colley Gate with a new reception area and particularly a new shop frontage.

The office name was changed to incorporate the Hickton name as many local families were using the office who had before come to Hicktons in Cradley Heath at their time of need, they now have a closer location

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## THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



HOW will the collapse of the stock market in China affect us? According to the experts, your energy bills could get smaller. Petrol could get cheaper. Mortgage rates could stay low for longer. Funny sort of crisis.

THE master of the one-liner, Milton Jones, is telling audiences at the Edinburgh Festival: "I come from a family of failed magicians: I've got two half-sisters."

I SMILED at a feature in one of those "Your Money" supplements in which a couple, both aged 42, wanted advice on how best to save for their "gap year" treat. It is to be a round-the-world trip, with their daughter who is now aged two, when mum and dad are 60. The financial gurus duly gave their advice on stocks, shares and Isas. And not one of them raised the question every parent was surely shouting at the page: What sort of 20-year-old girl will be seen dead with her aged parents on a globe-trotting jaunt? The two-year-old moppet you know and love today will be nothing like the self-willed woman 18 years away. Spend the money now.

THE musical Les Misérables had its C4 premiere a few days ago, starring a galaxy of fine singers, and Russell Crowe. And while it is all very moving and stirring, does anyone honestly have a clue what's

going on? We are told that the new king is unpopular and life is grim but there is not a single line to explain why folk were prepared to die in the 1832 June Rebellion. The conflict sprang from an unholy mix of crop failures, cholera, workers' uprisings and political despair. What the movie lacks is a scene-setting page of text (maybe like Star Wars: "A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away..."). Why are Les Misérables so damn miserable? We should be told.

SEPP Blatter insists: "The institution (Fifa) is not corrupt. There is no corruption in football. There is corruption with individuals. It is the people." I am reminded of the industrialist who declared his factory was unfairly blamed for polluting a lake when the pollution was actually caused by all those dead fish.

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# Affordable homes are planned for borough

**MORE than 100 homes will be built on a new estate in a multi-million pound scheme to create affordable housing in Dudley.**

It is part of plans to build 350 homes in the borough over the next five years in a £40m investment.

More than £6m of the funding was confirmed this year by Government and Dudley Council is looking to find a partner to develop the first site and build 130 homes. Some will be council housing.

by Kim Crayton-Brown

proved the plans last year, which will see £15.6m invested over the next three years to get the scheme off the ground.

As well as the £6.2m of Local Growth Funding, the council is looking to add a further £11.5m into the new build budget in 2018/19, spending a total of £40.6m over the next five years.

Among the areas which could have housing are former garage sites and the old archives building on Mount Pleasant Street in Coseley.

The former Wren's Nest Estate Office has also been earmarked for housing along with a site in Beech Road, Kingswinford, and the council will look to identify additional sites.

Meanwhile, in Coseley more than 60 acres of disused industrial land will be transformed to provide more than 900 homes and a supermarket. Skelton Group Investments want to create the 925-home estate, called Coseley Park.

### Need

The remainder of the homes will be sold by the selected partner. This forms part of Dudley's overall plan to deliver around 350 new council homes to meet local housing need over the next few years."

The builder's proposals will be evaluated on the quality of the design and how it fits into the local environment, she said.

Cabinet members ap-

## Oarsome Atlantic challenge



Sean Lannon, left, and Lee Felton, raising funds at Merry Hill

A FORMER teacher from Dudley is undertaking an oar-some task — to row across the Atlantic Ocean for charity.

Lee Felton will join three other fundraisers for the challenge, none of whom have rowed before. The task will take them from the Canary Islands to Antigua in the Caribbean.

Lee and Sean Lannon drummed up support for the event at the Merry Hill centre. Using rowing machines they covered the distance from Bristol to Newcastle over nine days.

The team needs to raise £80,000 just to make it to the start line and so far have reached £10,000.

The 31-year-old gave up his job as a biology teacher in Dubai to focus on the mission. He said: "I got a little bit bored of teaching and fancied another challenge."

The former Summerhill School pupil has joined Dudley Rowing Club and is undergoing rigorous training.

The foursome could be alone on the water for as long as three months, living on basic rations and sea water which they will have to de-salinate themselves.

Support the team at [squareoneatlantic.com](http://squareoneatlantic.com)

**Boy racers will be named and shamed**

A COUNCIL leader has joined police to make a fresh plea end car cruising on a busy route in the Black Country.

Boy racers have been flouting a ban on car cruising in the area prompting a crackdown by police.

Sandwell Council joined Dudley, Wolverhampton and Walsall councils to work with West Midlands Police to secure a three-year injunction in December.

It stops people from participating in a 'car cruise' anywhere within the Black Country or from promoting, organising or publicising any car cruising event.

They launched the crackdown after concerns over boy racers meeting up and hitting the A41 Black Country New Road.

Officers admitted there are still an issues on roads around Great Bridge. Sandwell Council leader, Councillor Darren Cooper, said the authority was working with the force to end the meetings.

"This is dangerous," he said. "These young people think this is fun."

"The reality of it is that the roads are not made for this kind of activity."

"I'm urging people to think twice. These drivers are putting themselves at risk and innocent people too."

"We have a zero tolerance approach to this. Anyone carrying out this will be named and shamed."

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# Mistress mischief of females and emails

IT turns out that adultery website Ashley Madison is not quite the hotbed of illicit encounters its users were hoping for.

According to data expert Annalee Newitz, most of the female profiles were registered to email addresses which ended in the name of the company. And while 20 million randy men had been fervently checking their inboxes in the hope of receiving a steamy message, only 1,492 women bothered to open their inbox.

For some reason, the blokes were a bit shy about going to trading standards.

It reminds me of the age-old scam about the company with a risqué-sounding name which advertised bargain-priced 'adult toys' by mail order. The goods never came, but all customers were sent a full refund – in the form of a cheque with the company name emblazoned across the top in large letters, most of which were disposed of.

■ ■ ■

NOW I've never really understood how 'anarchic' artist Banksy has become the darling of the London luvvies. Take away all the hype and pretentious arty talk, and, well, he's just a vandal.

Anyway, his latest wheeze is a theme park in Weston-super-Mare where the security staff are trained to be rude and inefficient, where all customers are subjected to over-zealous body searches, and where the main attractions are a man selling balloons with the words "I am an imbecile" on them, and a children's attraction offering payday loans.

One day the website crashed – which many punters thought was actually part of the experience – because six million people had been trying to buy tickets.

Well, as the saying goes, a fool and his money are easily parted. I just never knew there were so many of them around.

■ ■ ■

I TOOK advantage of the brief respite from the downpours to take a walk on Monday. After five miles in the misty drizzle, I slumped into a chair tired, light-headed, and gasping for a pint. So spare a thought for Penkridge window cleaner Mark Vaz, who last week broke the world record for running the most marathons in consecutive days. And still doing his window cleaning round.

In the last few days Mark has suffered from food poisoning, and has had to do several of his runs with his leg in bandage because of an injury he has picked up. He will soon be two-thirds of his way through his target of 90 marathons in 90 days in aid of pregnancy charity Tommy's and Katherine House Hospice in Stafford.

Unbelievably, some idiots have taken to so-called social media to deliver unpleasant and personal abuses. Can I suggest that anybody who wishes to show their contempt for these idiots does so by sponsoring Mark £5? Because I think he has earned it.

Celebrating with Paul Carty during Hednesford's cup run



Settling into his role as Dudley College finance director



Young Andy Comyn in his Villa Park days



# Andy's new career is Comyn up trumps

An ex-pro player is proving there is life after football by carving out a new career.

DAVID COSGROVE reports

## LIFE after football can be tough for many ex-professionals.

Cocooned in the game from an early age, many footballers don't know anything other than life in the sport.

Without any extra qualifications, or life experience, it can be hard to turn to another vocation when age and injury brings careers to an end.

But Andy Comyn, the former Aston Villa and Albion defender, is an exception to the rule.

Comyn has gone on to enjoy a successful second career after stepping away from the professional game in the 1990s and has joined Dudley College as vice principal for financial strategy and control.

The 47-year-old, who also played for Plymouth and Derby, left pro football in 1996, but went on to represent Hednesford Town in the non-league and was part of their famous run to the FA Cup fourth round.

### Bubble

He admits that while his career has panned out well since, he has felt regret at what might have been, as he left the professional game aged just 28.

Comyn, who was brought up in Stockport, joined Manchester United's youth set-up aged 16.

Even as a teenager he had his head screwed on and wanted to get an education, rather than simply enjoy life in the footballing bubble.

"I was always planning to go off to university," he said.

"Football is a fantastic career now and the money is unbelievable. At the time I was playing the money would've been slightly better than people would've paid elsewhere to a graduate – but not significantly so."

"I think one reason for wanting to study at university was because around about that era



Ex-footballer Andy Comyn with the shirts he wore with pride for Villa and the Baggies

you had the likes of Seb Coe who was really successful in athletics and he was at uni in Loughborough.

"For some reason I had it in my head that I wanted to go to Loughborough, which had fantastic sporting facilities and a great sporting tradition.

"That was just in my head from a young age – but after all that time thinking it would be Loughborough I ended up going to Birmingham to study physics instead."

In fact, Comyn, who plied his footballing trade as a centre half, nearly didn't have a professional career at all, after being released by United while still at university.

Nearing the end of his final year studying – and with no career mapped out – he sent hopeful letters out to a couple of clubs in the Midlands, and it paid dividends.

Comyn, who had played for Alvechurch dur-

ing his time in Birmingham, said: "I was getting towards the end of that year and deciding what I was going to do with myself."

"Then I decided to write off to Wolves and Villa – I don't know why only those two clubs, but that's what I did."

"I didn't hear anything back from Wolves but got a call from (Villa assistant manager) John Ward inviting me down to training."

"I couldn't go as it was right in the middle of my finals but thankfully we rearranged it."

Villa boss Graham Taylor saw Comyn play 45 minutes of a practice match and snapped him up. He made his debut against Liverpool at Villa Park and spent two years at the club – during which he played 90 minutes in a celebrated UEFA Cup win at home to Inter Milan – before moving on to Derby and Plymouth.

While he was at the former, he successfully completed a book-keeping course at Sutton

College, to make sure he kept his future career options open. After a two-month spell at Albion in 1996, he faced a big decision. "At the end of that season, manager Alan Buckley offered me a two-year contract," he explained.

"But he made it very clear to me that I was going to be the fourth choice centre half and I told him that was no good for me."

"I was about to turn 28 and wanted to be playing regularly so I turned them down and was considering what to do."

But Comyn was approached by Hednesford Town boss John Baldwin who said he was interested. Baldwin owned two accountancy practices and said he could get the defender a job.

This offered him a chance to make the most of his book-keeping qualification, a solid career and a chance to carry on playing football to a decent level – so he felt it was the right move.

However, events at West Brom did make his question his decision to quit.

### Injured

"I ended up working full-time in Walsall and training two or three times a week, it was ideal. The only time I've really had any sense of regret was after I left West Brom."

"Obviously Buckley had said I would be the fourth choice in central defence."

"But within the first few weeks of the season at least two of the centre halves got injured and that was the time I thought 'if only'."

"If I'd still been there I would've got a chance and you don't know what might have happened."

He says he enjoyed his spell at Hednesford, starring in the club's famous 1996-97 FA Cup run – in which they lost to subsequent finalists Middlesbrough – and turned out for England's non-league side.

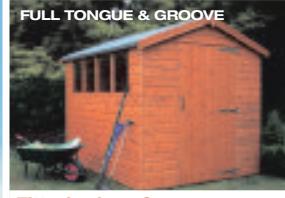
Andy finally hung up his boots in 2001 after a year at Halesowen and has thrown himself into his new career – working at the likes of Grant Thornton, Deloitte and Wragge & Co.

He is looking forward to his new challenge at Dudley College. "I've loved it so far. There's passion and commitment from the staff and a desire to keep improving."

"There are brand new buildings and a lot of investment has happened and will continue to happen."

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# Baffled by shortage of applicants

THOSE wonderful Labour people running Dudley have appointed a temporary head honcho over children's services and reckon she's a snip at a mere 80 quid a day.

We are told this is necessary as you just can't get the staff these days no matter how many tens of thousands over the 100k you offer. The lady in question is Merlin Joseph and is probably employed to wave an industrial strength magic wand to sort out Dudley Children's Services.

Though instructed back in 2012 by Ofsted when under the purview of the

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### POST

Dudley Chronicle,  
Chronicle Editorial,  
51-53 Queen Street  
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

### EMAIL

dudley.chrons@expressandstar.co.uk

*Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.*

## Police can expect no support from public

OVER the last few weeks there have been some unusual headlines. For instance, it's been reported that seven West Midlands primary school pupils under 12 have been placed on a list of those at risk of radicalisation or extremism.

No one suggested that Japan caused this conflict. Japan started its own war with its unprovoked attacking of Pearl Harbor and then quickly overran other nations before America and Britain could respond.

When the time came to recapture these territories, the Americans lost thousands of men and realised the final action involving the invasion of the Japanese mainland would result in many more men being killed.

Japan was called upon to surrender but refused to give in so the first bomb was unleashed. Again they were asked to surrender which again they rejected hence the second bomb was dropped. Eventually they did surrender.

J POSTINGS  
Stourbridge

A P Cuff, Stourbridge

previous Tory regime to get its house in order within three to six months, these services are still in a problematic state.

Once more, Ukip's small band of councillors are performing a valuable local service delving into the cosy relationships and shortcomings which have existed between the two main parties.

What is difficult to understand is why there should be a problem in recruitment. As far as I'm concerned, I cannot understand why, for the salary being offered, there is not a queue of excellent applicants. The art of man-

A M ETHERIDGE  
Sedgley

## Sympathy for PoWs

G FANTHOM, Chronicle, August 27, is right, the Japanese did not start the war in Europe. What they did was an unprovoked attack on the US Naval base Pearl Harbor. Perhaps America should not have dropped the bombs but shortly after the war in Japan ended.

If you have any sympathy give it to the men taken PoW by the Japanese who were beaten and starved.

D E WALKER  
Dudley

## On the way to a full house

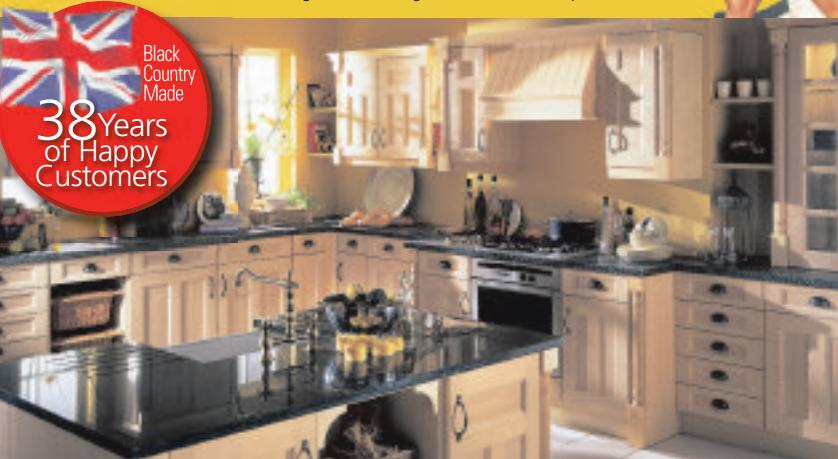
LOWER Gornal, Hagley, Old Hill; an eclectic mix of the West Midlands, all with one thing in common - threatened closure of their Barclays bank branch.

Identical 'reasons' are given for the closures, which cannot possibly be correct. 'Let them eat the cake' - of closures, inconvenience and the wishes of local opinion. Barclays is well on the way to a full house of excuses.

P A LANGFORD  
Dudley

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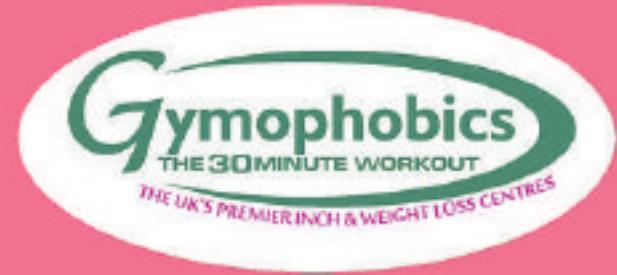
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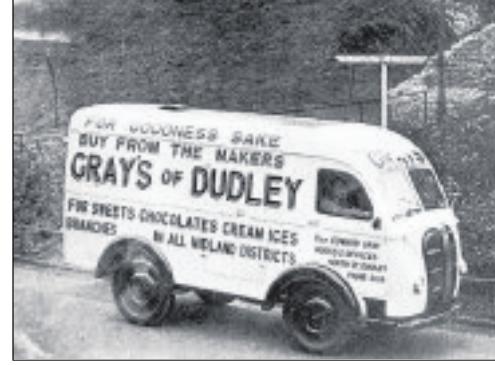
Councillor Ahmed at the Duncan Edwards plaque



Plaque centres on the Finch family halfpenny



A Time Trail plaque about Dudley Castle



Dudley rock maker Teddy Gray poses in his van



Football legend, Busby Babe Duncan Edwards

# Charting town's history in commemorative trail

**HISTORIC** events from Dudley's history are being set in stone across the town.

A bomb explosion during the Second World War, and the unveiling of a statue dedicated to footballing hero Duncan Edwards are among those being commemorated.

Landmarks such as the Teddy Gray's sweet shop and Dudley Castle, as well as famous people such as world spring jumping champion Joe Darby and film director James Whale have also been highlighted as part of a new town trail.

More than 30 plaques are being dotted around the Market Place and Castle Street leading to Coronation Gardens.

Each 24-inch square plaque has been cast in bronze and features the date with the text, pictorial borders

## MEMORY LANE

By Heather Large

and a symbol of a Trilobite, the prehistoric fossil known as the Dudley Bug discovered at Wren's Nest Nature Reserve.

The collection of 33 stones have been designed by borough artist Steve Field and some also feature QR codes engraved into the bronze – which will allow instant download information in the future from mobile phone apps.

The Time Trail plaques have been installed as part of the £6.7 million revamp of Dudley Market.

A collection of ornate bronze plaques, highlighting the borough's important events, buildings and people, is currently being installed in Market Place and Castle Street.

This 'time trail' will also continue into Coronation Gardens as part of the £1.1 million revamp of that area.

The selection of 33 plaques have been designed by borough artist Steve Field.

Councillor Khurshid Ahmed, cabinet member for planning and economic development, said: "These plaques are an important part of the regeneration of Dudley and can be used by visitors to the borough to get a flavour of our heritage."

"They will also be able to be used by schools and anyone interested in finding out more about our important history."

Events dedicated in stone include the siege of Dudley Castle in 1646, a bomb explosion in 1940 opposite St. Thomas's Church and the Green Man pub which was reputedly haunted.

The plaque honouring footballer Edwards, one of Manchester United's Busby Babes, who also played for England, has been placed behind the statue in Dudley High Street, installed in 1999. Work to install the rest of the plaques will take place in the coming weeks.



Teddy Gray's shop in Wolverhampton Street in the 30s

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# Jail for illegal driver who crashed into pedestrian

## Great outdoors for pupils



Olive Hill headteacher Rachel Cutting with pupils Ethan Hamblett, Holly Marriott, Ria Sood and Ian Romano of developers St Modwen

PUPILS at an Halesowen school are set to have even more fun at break time thanks to a bigger playground, grass football pitch and a forest area.

Olive Hill Primary, in Springfield Road, has had the new play facilities as part of a package of improvements for the school.

Head teacher Rachel Cutting said: "The children were very excited to have a larger playground last year and to see the development of the new school field and forest area this year.

"The work has provided the chil-

dren with more space to play and learn outdoors."

Regeneration specialists St Modwen has delivered the facilities as part of its £2 million project to create homes and improve facilities in the Coombes Wood area.

Ian Romano, senior development surveyor at St Modwen, said: "We hope these outstanding facilities will improve the quality of play, teaching and learning at the school."

Councillor Ian Cooper added: "Learning through play is a very important part of primary education."

He will be banned from driving for three years from the date of his release.

AN unqualified motorist with no licence who mowed down and seriously injured a pedestrian after careering onto the pavement during a 'joy ride' has been jailed for three years and two months.

Talwinder Sandhu had taken a friend's Peugeot 308 without permission and had cannabis in his system when he ploughed into Robert Wylde sending the 42-year-old cartwheeling into the air, a judge heard.

The 22-year-old driver was travelling at no more than 40 mph in a 30 limit when he inexplicably lost control, went onto the wrong side of the road and mounted the pavement, hitting the victim who was speaking on his mobile phone at the time, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told.

The car then hurtled into the side of the Wizard and Glass pub in Cradley Road, Cradley Heath damaging decking and brickwork. Sandhu was badly hurt and trapped in the wreckage.

The pedestrian, who was taken to hospital and put in an induced coma for four days, broke both legs, his left ankle, right knee, right arm and fractured his spine. He spent six weeks in hospital and is still suffering the effects of the incident that happened around 9pm on November 18.

Sandhu was taken to court after treatment to his injuries and received an interim driving ban after admitting causing serious injury by dangerous driving.

Incredibly just three weeks later he was caught driving erratically at the wheel of another car - a Ford Focus on false plates.

Sandhu from Blowers Green Road, Dudley also pleaded guilty to having neither insurance nor driving licence, breaking the terms of a suspended sentence imposed 11 days before the accident for permitting the production of cannabis and driving when disqualified three weeks after receiving the interim ban.

He will be banned from driving for three years from the date of his release.

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# 10 Immigrant found tending cannabis factory is jailed

A VIETNAMESE illegal immigrant caught at a £600,000 cannabis factory has been jailed for three years.

Police found the large-scale operation when they raided Shenstone Industrial Estate in Bromsgrove Road, Halesowen, on July 31.

Officers with a search warrant captured Toan B Chu as he tried to flee the factory, which had seven growing areas with a total of 647 plants.

Wolverhampton Crown Court heard that the 27-year-old was arrested and taken to Brierley Hill police station for questioning.

"In his interview, he said he was living in the UK illegally and arrived two years ago," said Mr John Brotherton, prosecuting. "He had been in the unit for about 50 days after being taken there by two men he did not know and locked inside. He said he had not been forced or threatened.

"His role was to tend the plants as a garden man. He had not been paid. Food and supplies were delivered to him by people he did not know. He said he was not involved in the setting up of the farm or the tampering of the electricity supply."

The 647 plants were found in various stages of growth and police experts said their yield was up to £617,000. Utility firm Avon Power lost £23,106 after the electricity supply was bypassed.

But an eleventh hour condition was that the charge points must be installed at parking bays as the build is carried out.

The idea, which is expected to save hundreds of pounds, had the unanimous support of the planning committee having been proposed by Councillor Liam Preece.

He said: "This is something mentioned in the training we as a committee have received, but we have never recommended it.

"Sandwell could be a 'gold standard' on this if we could implement it in more schemes."

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**£100k director role at council to save money**

SANDWELL Council leader Darren Cooper has defended the move to advertise for a £100,000 director - saying planned changes at the top will save that amount each year.

The council has released a job advert for a director of business and commercial transformation - with a salary range of £87,200 to £101,687.

Councillor Cooper said this position "will pay for itself many times over" and the council's reduction in senior managers in recent years has saved more than £3 million a year.

A new report ahead of the cabinet meeting on Wednesday sets out new changes to the council's senior management team, "which will deliver an additional £100,000 saving".

## Restructuring

It recommends scrapping two directors' posts, upgrading the current director of adult social care to a new post as director of adult social care, health and wellbeing and also suggests setting up a new chief operations officer role in adult care, which will initially be temporary for two years.

The report states: "Proposals in this report and the restructuring of the council's senior management arrangements in recent years have already delivered savings in excess of £3 million per annum and will deliver an additional £100,000 saving."

## A place in the NEC for foreign property show

A PLACE in the Sun will be coming to the NEC from September 25 to 27.

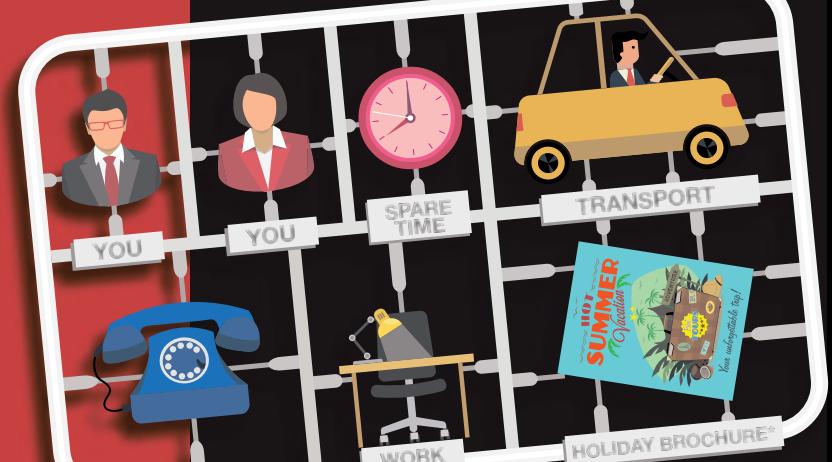
It will feature live appearances from TV presenters Amanda Lamb, Laura Hamilton, Jasmine Harman and Jonni Irwin.

Tickets are £10 for one adult ticket, £15 for two adult tickets and concessions are £6. Parking is £12.

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# Second chamber creaking at seams

**DANIEL WAINWRIGHT**  
Political Editor

THEY called them the 'dissolution honours'. But to me they're the 'disillusioned honours' - as that's how I'm feeling about this new crop of peers of the realm.

There are some people who have sneered at the inclusion of underwear tycoon Michelle Mone in the list of new Tory peers - but she's one of the few who can point to the merits of her business acumen, rather than her service to her party.

Certain sections of the press have labelled the Scot one of the 'brassy' - their word, not mine - women David Cameron is enthralled by.

Ms Mone, however, is a rarity in a list dominated by people whose record with their party and politics is being rewarded as much as their service to their country or community.

## Forlorn

The House of Lords is past its best. Creaking at the seams it is the second largest legislative chamber in the world outside of China, a country with a population of almost 1.4 billion.

The Liberal Democrats were very keen on making it elected. But that has not stopped them adding to the red benches with 11 of their own nominees - three more than the entirety of the sad and forlorn bunch of MPs they were left with after May.

For while the Liberal Democrats were very keen indeed on serving the



**Lorely Burt Lib Dem Baroness**



**Soon-to-be Baroness Mone**

will of the electorate, the electorate was not all that keen on them after five years of coalition.

David Cameron, meanwhile, is likely to press ahead with moves to cut the number of MPs, who are elected by the people, but not making much more than noises about the number of Lords, who are not.

The Prime Minister's own cronyism has dominated the debate on this over the past couple of days but my personal favourite addition to the list is from Labour.

Their modest eight peers are almost all former MPs, save for Spencer Livermore. This is the strategy and communications professional who became Labour's campaign director for the General Election.

Hmm. Remind me how that turned out again? Still, as a new life

peer Lord Livermore will have to fight for his seat, er, nevermore, which must be rather nice.

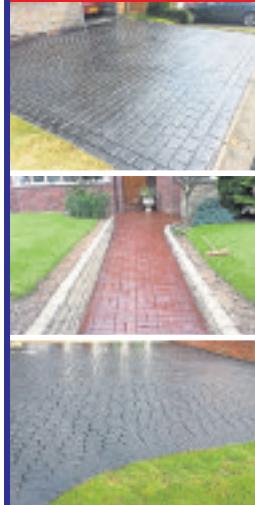
As for the West Midlands, the only new peer from these parts is the Liberal Democrat Lorely Burt, turfed out of her Solihull seat in favour of a Conservative MP in May.

Sedgley-born Baroness Burt will, we must hope, bring a bit of Black Country common sense to a house now welcoming an intake of donors, advisers, strategists and other party political types.

Parliament will be at its best when it reflects the country it represents, not when its second chamber is used as a reward for political loyalty.

And if all the parties are not careful, respect for and trust in it will sink so low, not even one of Michelle Mone's bras could lift them.

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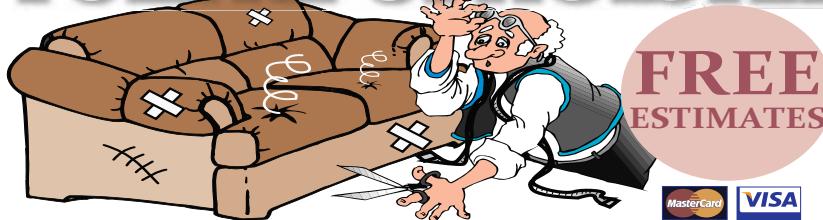
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Criticism over care  
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## Tough trek aids hospital



Simon Kinge, Legal & General, Lee Judson, The Tipton, Katie West, children's hospital, Matt Taylor and Julie Belcher, The Tipton

BUILDING Society staff had a mountain to climb to raise funds for Birmingham Children's Hospital.

The team from The Tipton & Coseley Building Society, trekked up Mount Snowdon and collected more than £2,300, surpassing their target of £500.

Lee Judson, general manager sales and marketing at The Tipton, along with society colleagues Sally Coombes, Julie Belcher, Matthew Taylor and Simon Kinge, financial consultancy manager from Legal & General, braved heavy rain to complete The Tipton Snowdon Chal-

lenge in three hours. Katie West, regional fundraiser at Birmingham Children's Hospital Charity, said: "We want to say a huge thank you to the team at The Tipton for taking on Mount Snowdon for our hospital.

"Their hard work allowed them to finish in record time and their fantastic fundraising effort has raised a significant amount of money that will go a long way to helping our children and families."

Lee added: "It was really tough, but made that little bit easier knowing that we were raising cash for such a worthy cause."

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T Rextasy, Robin 2, Bilston WHAM! glam thank you man.... Marc Bolan's spangled brand of 1970s pop was reborn to boogie in Bilston by one of the venue's favourite tribute acts on Saturday night.

Rextasy, fronted by Bolan clone Danielz, rocked the Robin with a two-hour set that pleased both casual and die-hard fans of the corkscrew-haired glam rock star who died in a car crash 38 years ago this month.

Kicking off with Raw Ramp, the four-piece band got the crowd grooving with Metal Guru and 20th Century Boy. An acoustic set featured Cosmic Dancer (the song which opened the Billy Elliot movie), Spaceball Ricochet and Bolan's take on Stand By Me, in tribute to Ben E King.

As a treat for the dedicated fans, King of the Rumbling Spires (from when Bolan's band were still a bunch of hippies called Tyrannosaurus Rex) got a rare airing, as did Dreamy Lady and Life's A Gas, the latter dedicated to Cilla Black.

After a short break, Danielz returned clad in a glittering jacket draped with a feather boa and it was boogie all the way with such favourites as Telegram Sam, Children of the Revolution, that other Billy Elliot highlight I Love To Boogie, Ride A White Swan, Solid Gold Easy Action and an epic version of Get It On.

T Rextasy will be back at the Robin on New Year's Eve to confuse Old Father Time by partying like it's still the 1970s. Long may they Truck On.

LB

FRESH from a headline set at the V Festival, Welsh rockers Stereophonics have announced a ten date UK arena tour including Birmingham Genting Arena on Friday, December 11.

The quartet, who sold out 16 arena shows on their Graffiti On The Train UK tour in 2013, will be releasing their eagerly anticipated ninth studio album Keep The Village Alive on September 11.

The new album features the singles C'est La Vie and I Wanna Get Lost With You. The latter has a promotional video directed by the band's singer/songwriter Kelly Jones.

Over an 18-month period, Jones wrote 30 songs, using only 10 for Graffiti On The Train, which went on to become a platinum seller.

"We had a lot of good songs left over, so

we whittled that back to five and added five new songs," said the singer/guitarist.

"Some of the songs were written for Graffiti. The first single, C'est La Vie, was ready for Graffiti, for instance, but it didn't fit, so we held that back and used it now.

"It's nice when you're in a position to look at which songs work best together.

"It's a bit like being a football manager. You have a load of good players and pick the ones you want to put on the field."

For the latest information see the [www.stereophonics.com](http://www.stereophonics.com) website.

Reborn to  
boogie at  
the Robin 2



The Stereophonics are back with their ninth album and a Birmingham concert

## Kelly's eye on selecting best songs for Village

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## Warnings over off road bikers at reserve

YOBS have been riding around a beauty spot on off-road bikes prompting police to step up patrols.

Three riders have been issued warnings by officers after being caught on Pens Pool Nature Reserve, in Pensnett, near Brierley Hill.

The nature reserve is known for its wildlife alongside willows, marshland and fragments of ancient woodland.

Residents have continued to raise concerns about the use of off-road bikes on the Fens Pools and the surrounding areas.

Sergeant Rachel Turner, from Brockmoor and Pensnett Neighbourhood police, said: "This issue of off-road bikes continues to be a focus for the team although the number of calls concerning this has fallen in recent weeks."

# Dream drams on offer at major whisky festival

WHISKY lovers can taste some of the finest tipples, some from distilleries long closed down, at a festival in Stourbridge.

The Midlands Whisky Festival is the biggest event of its kind outside London and takes place on Friday Saturday, September 18 and 19 at Stourbridge Town Hall.

It provides the chance for ticket holders to taste the dream drams that money just can't buy, including malts from distilleries which are no longer in operation but whose historic stock has been acquired by other distilleries and collectors.

There will be masterclasses by experts from the likes of Laphroaig, celebrating its 200th anniversary, and Nikka, the award-winning Japanese distiller, teaching visitors all they need to know about the spirit.

### Independent

There will be around 40 exhibitors including artisan chocolatier Matthieu De Gottal, whose speciality is whisky chocolates, and a chance to take a break from whisky-tasting with food provided on site by local bistro, French Connection.

The Midlands Whisky Festival, established in 2011 is the brainchild of Nickolls and Perks, an independent wine and spirits merchants in Stourbridge which dates back to the 18th century. Since 1797, it has occupied the same timber-framed corner building on Lower High Street.



The Gardener family David, Jerome, Rhianon, Will and Callum

Owned by the Gardener family since 1945, it boasts an extensive inventory of some 2,000 whiskies and spirits as well as wines and champagnes from all over the world.

The Midlands Whisky Festival is held twice a year to showcase new spring and autumn releases.

Tickets for the festival, priced £30 to £150, can be bought in advance at [www.whiskyfest.co.uk](http://www.whiskyfest.co.uk)

Tim Robbins, marketing and events manager at Nickolls and Perks said: "We've seen a marked increase in interest in specialist and premium whiskies and spirits. This has led to the Midlands Whisky Festival growing from one day per year to two days

twice yearly, making it the largest event of its type in England outside London.

The festival offers a great opportunity to everyone to explore the diversity of whiskies and spirits on taste from Ireland, the US, Japan, India as well as, of course, Scotland.

You don't have to be a die-hard enthusiast – there's a lot to see and taste, for newbies and experts alike, backed up by industry professionals from the distilleries offering lots of friendly advice and information."

More information is available at [www.whiskyfest.co.uk](http://www.whiskyfest.co.uk), on Facebook, on Twitter @midlandswhisky or call 01384 394518.

## Dumped rubbish bagged in tidy-up



The clean-up team ready to get to work on removing the mess left behind by fly-tippers

TYRES, mattresses, sofas, fridges – the shocking mountain of rubbish dumped in a Black Country street by thoughtless fly-tippers.

A community group filled six truck-loads of trash in just two hours when they tackled the rubbish mound off Jackson Street, Lye.

Some 15 members of Tidy Stourbridge worked with the council to clear three sofas, more than 20 tyres, roofing materials, stacks of wood, plastic tubs and general waste. There was even a drinks vending machine left at the site between High Street and the Lye by-pass.

Roger Kendrick, of Tidy Stourbridge, said the smell from the rubbish was 'shocking' and described it as one of the worst examples of fly-tipping he had ever seen.

He added that Jackson Street had become a hotspot for fly-tippers.

"If people are inclined to fly-tip this is probably the best spot in the whole borough," he said.



The mountain of dumped rubbish

"We all said that we'd not seen anything as bad as this load of rubbish before and most of it must have been fly-tipping."

"We picked up about 80 bags of rubbish as the team from Tidy Stourbridge. That is without including what was collected by the council's staff."

Problems at the site were first spotted by Tidy Stourbridge members around three months ago but since then more rubbish had been left.

The clean-up was carried out as a joint operation between the community group and Dudley Council's Street Cleaning Department.

Deputy Mayor Councillor Mohamed Hanif, Councillor Christine Perks and the council's chief executive, Sarah Norman, helped clear the area.

Mr Kendrick, added: "This was a really good exercise. When we first got there the rubbish was a real mountain. "Dave Wesson from the council and Sarah Norman both said they had never seen anything like it."



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## Mystery Guest to kick off Rep season



Mystery - Phil Astle as Inspector Thomas, Samantha Gessey as Laura Warwick and Mark Moran as Michael Stackweddler

A CLASSIC whodunnit will be kicking off the 77th season of the Black Country's foremost community theatres.

Oldbury Rep is staging thriller The Unexpected Guest, with performances taking place from September 12 to 19.

Set in a foggy country estate in Wales, the mystery begins when a stranger, lost in the fog, walks into the study of Richard and Laura Warwick to find a man dead.

He comes across the dead man's wife, who has a revolver in her hand. It appears to be an open and shut case. But the woman is dazed and confused and her confession is unconvincing.

The Agatha Christie classic includes a houseful of suspects who have both the motive and opportunity to have carried out the crime.

Performances start at 7.30pm and tickets can be obtained by phone or in person from the box office on Monday evenings from 7.30pm, and on the Friday prior to opening night from 7.30pm, and every night of the production from 7pm.

Tickets are £10 with the usual concessions at £9, plus a special price on Monday and Tuesday evenings of £8 (no concessions) - box office is 0121 552 2761. And there are online book-

ings available at [www.oldburyrep.org](http://www.oldburyrep.org)

Meanwhile, the theatre's special film screenings continue on September 25 with the feel-good comedy The Second Best Marigold Hotel and on October 9 the new version of the Thomas Hardy classic, Far from the Madding Crowd will be shown. The film for October 23 is to be confirmed and on November 20 the Rep presents Sir Ian McKellan in Mr Holmes.

All films are shown on the Rep's 16ft screen with high quality digital projection in the 170-seat auditorium. Tickets are still just £3.50 and the performance starts at 7.30pm.

# Bake Off duo will sign books at food festival

TWO stars from The Great British Bake Off will appear at Ludlow Food Festival next weekend.

Luis Troyano, who appeared on the BBC show last year, and Howard Middleton from the fourth series, are part of the line-up at the Shropshire festival, which will be held in the grounds of Ludlow Castle from Friday to Sunday, September 11 to 13.

Both will give demonstrations on the festival's cooking stage before signing copies of their books.

Howard Middleton, who will be talking about his new book Gluten Free Baking, will appear on the Friday afternoon of the festival, while Luis Troyano will give a demonstration on the Saturday morning.

Organisers have also revealed that Shaun Hill, who ran the Michelin starred Merchant House in Ludlow until 2005, will return to the town he helped put on the culinary map a decade ago.

Mr Hill, who now runs the Walnut Tree restaurant near Abergavenny, has been named as an inspiration by top chefs.

### Pudding

In total there will be 33 talks and cookery demonstrations over the course of the festival, while more than 180 producers will show off their wares.

There will also be the annual locally-made sausage, ale and bread trails taking place around Ludlow, along with pudding tasting and a Sunday produce market.

For children there will be Kidz-Kitchen cookery classes sponsored by Lanyon Bowdler, and interactive Grow Cook Learn workshops.

Marcus Bean's Brompton Cookery



Howard Middleton is gluten free baking



Luis Troyano appearing on the Saturday

of Ludlow and the surrounding area. The idea was to create a festival which would both promote the area's small food and drink producers and encourage visitors to explore historic Ludlow's shops, restaurants and pubs.

The historic setting was combined with events like the trails which were designed to encourage visitors to explore Ludlow and its specialist shops, restaurants, cafes and pubs. The rest, as they say, is history.

For more information visit the website, [www.foodfestival.co.uk](http://www.foodfestival.co.uk) or telephone (01584) 873957.

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# fast theticket

## THE LAST DANCE

French star Sylvie's  
farewell performance  
Page 23



Into the Sunset  
– Page 23



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## Sir Simon Rattle



Tuesday, 7.30pm  
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Sir Simon Rattle returns to the hall he was so instrumental in the creation of, with one of the world's greatest orchestras, three world-class soloists, and a massed choir. Visit [www.tsh.co.uk](http://www.tsh.co.uk)

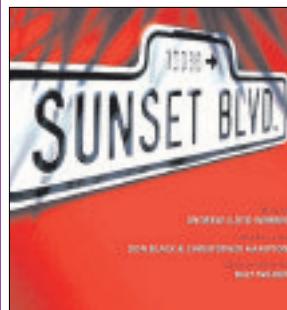
## Greg Russell & Ciaran Algar



Monday, 8pm  
Stafford Gatehouse

Two-time BBC Folk Award winners Greg Russell and Ciaran Algar met in 2011 and released their first album in 2012. They are one of the most sought after young acts on the folk scene. Visit [staffordgatehousetheatre.co.uk](http://staffordgatehousetheatre.co.uk)

## Sunset Boulevard



Tues - September 12  
The Grand, W'ton

Sunset Boulevard makes a long-awaited return to the stage this Autumn, a first for the Wolverhampton Grand Theatre. The show weaves a magnificent tale. Visit [www.grandtheatre.co.uk](http://www.grandtheatre.co.uk)

## Philip Solomon



Tuesday, 7pm  
Robin 2, Bilton

Philip Solomon has been acknowledged by many as one of the best psychic mediums in the world. On the evening he will be demonstrating his talents. Visit [www.therobin.co.uk](http://www.therobin.co.uk)

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### Paul Smith & The Intimations

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### John Rossall & Harvey Ellison

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Call 0121 246 2273

## Abba Reunion: Abba Tribute

Sat at 7.30pm, £20.50  
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.  
Call 01543 412121

### Jurassic 5

Tue at 7pm, £25  
The Institute, Digbeth,  
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Call 0121 643 0428

### Mac DeMarco

Thu at 7pm - 11pm, £15  
The Institute, Digbeth,  
Birmingham, B5 6DY.  
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Mon at 8pm, £10  
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Call 01785 254653

#### Hayes Carll

Sat at 8pm - 11pm, £15  
The Glee Club, Birmingham,  
B5 4TD.  
Call 0871 472 0400

#### Oh Susanna

Wed at 7.30pm - 11pm, £13  
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath,  
B14 7JZ. Call 0844 870 0000

#### Sandpiper Folk Club Night

Wed at 7.45pm,  
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Wolverhampton, WV6 7BQ.  
Call 01902 700207

#### Sylvie Guillem - Life In Progress

Tue at 7.30pm - 10pm, Wed at  
7.30pm - 10pm, £15 - £75  
Birmingham Hippodrome,  
B5 4TB. Call 0844 338 5000

#### Mrs Robinson I Presume + The Graduate

Sat at 7.30pm, Sun at 2.30pm,  
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7.30pm, Wed at 7.30pm, Thu at  
7.30pm, £14 - £15

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5pm, Tue at 10am - 5pm, Wed at  
10am - 5pm, Free  
The NEC Birmingham, B40 1NT.  
Call 0121 780 4141

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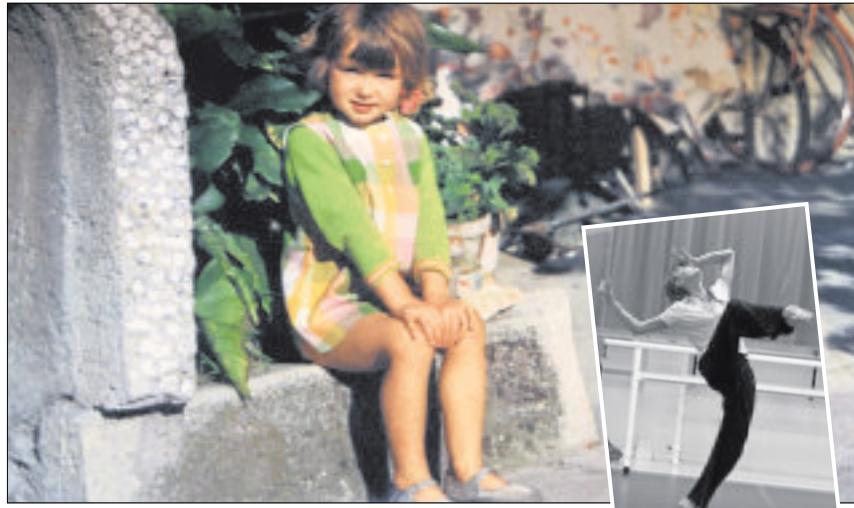
Sun at 11am, £1  
Robin 2, Bilton, WV14 7LJ.  
Call 01902 401211

#### Medium Philip Solomon

Tues at 7pm, £9/£10  
Robin 2, Bilton, WV14 7LJ.  
Call 01902 401211

Check out full listings in **the ticket** in Friday's Express & Star

# Sylvie lining up for one last dance



Sylvie Guillem as a young girl, and, inset, showing off her ballet dancing prowess

HAILED as one of the greatest dancers of her generation, Sylvie Guillem embarks on her final world tour – giving fans in the West Midlands the chance to say goodbye.

This farewell tour, called Life in Progress, takes in Birmingham Hippodrome on September 8 and 9, from 7.30pm each night. It marks the end of an unparalleled career spanning well over 30 years.

Now aged 50, Guillem began train-

ing at the Paris Opera Ballet School in 1977. She has performed all the leading roles of the classical repertoire and was principal guest artist with The Royal Ballet for more than a decade.

Since 2004 she has been an Associate Artist at Sadler's Wells, and has forged a second, hugely successful career as a dancer in new and contemporary works. Ahead of the second Hippodrome performance, a special

fundraising reception includes a talk from dance critic Sarah Crompton about Sylvie's prolific career.

Sylvie previously amazed Hippodrome audiences as part of its award-winning International Dance Festival Birmingham (IDFB) and funds raised from the reception will go towards commissions and projects planned for IDFB 2016. It starts at 6.15pm and tickets are £30. Book online or call 0844 338 5000.

## Musical first for the Grand



**"There's never a dull moment with Norma."**

### Chas & Dave join Rockmas festivities

TICKETS are on now on sale for Rockmas 2015 at the Barclaycard Arena, featuring Roy Wood and friends.

The Christmas concert will be opened by Andy Fairweather-Low and The Low Riders.

Great collaborations in the past have seen Rich Wakeman and his son Adam join forces with an opera singer, while the Proclaimers have also supported Roy and his band on stage.

This year Rockmas welcomes Chas & Dave. There will also be a special guest.

The spectacular takes place on December 6. Tickets are on general sale from [www.theticketfactory.com](http://www.theticketfactory.com) or by calling 0844 338 8000.

### From cat in hat to dancing grannies

YOUNGSTERS can enjoy a stage adaptation of Dr Seuss's The Cat in the Hat this week.

This stage version, by Katie Mitchell, is being performed at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre tomorrow (Friday) from 4.30pm, followed by two shows on Saturday at 1pm and 3.30pm. Call Janine Graeme on 01902 573311 or email [janine@grandtheatre.co.uk](mailto:janine@grandtheatre.co.uk) for ticket details.

Expect hilarious routines from naughty schoolchildren to dancing grannies as the Fizzogs perform at the theatre tonight (Thursday). Phoenix Nights star Barbara Nice (aka Janice Connolly) guests in Fifty Shades of Fizzog from 7.30pm.

### Imelda singles out city for show

IRISH singer Imelda May will perform her only UK headline show of the year in Wolverhampton.

The singer, who released debut album Mayhem earlier this year, will perform at the Wulfrun Hall on September 24.

The Dublin singer will come to the city hot on the heels of a successful performance at this year's V Festival, where she drew an impressive crowd to the main stage before duetting with Sir Tom Jones.

She has also collaborated with some of the biggest artists in the industry. Tickets are £27.50 and available on 0870 320 7000 or online at [www.wolvescivic.co.uk](http://www.wolvescivic.co.uk)

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Exterior shot of the Mercure Holland House hotel in the heart of the city



SS Brunel, a museum ship harboured in Bristol



One of the refurbished bedrooms at Bristol Holland House



Landoger Trow, one of the city's hidden treasures

# A tale of two cities loaded with poetry, prose and the Plimsoll Line

**THERE** are no Hard Times in this tale of two cities. But what a Dickens of a history lesson we had.

Bristol and Bath are just 12 miles apart and both are steeped in heritage – and fascinating literary connections. The former can lay claim to Robert Southey, a close friend of Wordsworth and Coleridge and who later became Poet Laureate. Coleridge himself launched the *Watchman* magazine in the city in 1795.

Child genius Thomas Chatterton, who died at the age of 17, was born in the city, which is also home to award-winning writer and poet Helen Dunmore.

More famous links are those of Robert Louis Stevenson and Daniel Defoe. Legend has it that Defoe based *Robinson Crusoe* on Alexander Selkirk, whom he met in the

By Mark Shipp

Llandoger Trow in King Street. The Hole in the Wall pub, in Queens Square, reputedly forms the basis of the Spyglass pub in Robinson's *Treasure Island*. Both feature in a list of hidden treasures, created by Mercure and Blue Badge tourism guides.

Jane Austen, a one-time resident of neighbouring Bath, spent time in Bristol and is believed to have stayed in Clifton.

But Bristol is also famed for other key maritime and engineering achievements. Italian explorer John Cabot is honoured with a statue. He settled in Bristol in 1840, and seven years later discovered Newfoundland. SS *Brunel* was the world's longest passenger liner from 1845-54 and is now a leading visitor attraction and museum ship.

Samuel Plimsoll, inventor of the ship loading line which bears his name, is an

other famous Bristolian. Concorde, the motorbike and sidecar – and even lead shot, originated in Bristol, as did Schweppes and Harvey's Bristol Cream. Chocolatier Joseph Fry opened his first shop in the city in 1756.

Wallace & Gromit maybe famous Bristol creations, but did you know that *Deal or No Deal*, *Casualty* and *Shoestring* – even *Only Fools and Horses* were all filmed there.

All this and more my partner and I discovered when we stayed at the Mercure Bristol Holland House Hotel, welcoming accommodation in the centre of a vibrant and clean city.

A recent transformation has seen its 275 rooms and public spaces renovated, all giving a nod to the city's industrial and sea-faring heritage. It also boasts 12 conference rooms, a spa and 14 treatment rooms.

We were also treated to Flavours From the Cellar, a wine concept launched by

Saturday Kitchen's Susie Barry and Peter Richards. Their offerings feature across 72 of the chain's hotels alongside other locally selected wines.

The city offers so much to do, from the oldest established market, St Nicholas, which dates to 1873, the mall at Cribbs Causeway, housing 135 top stores, and the Avon Valley Railway nostalgia steam train.

The next day, we headed to Bath, where its own literary connections should not be under-estimated. Austen aside, Frankenstein author Mary Shelley and her husband Percy Bysshe Shelley lodged there. Tobias Smollett penned part of his *Expedition of Humphrey Clinker* in the city and Dickens set part of *Pickwick Papers* there. Author Jacqueline Wilson was also born in Bath.

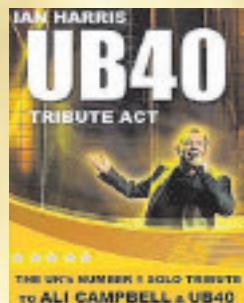
We finished the weekend at Bath races where, a jockey named Hardy – Cam Hardie – to be precise, scored a double.

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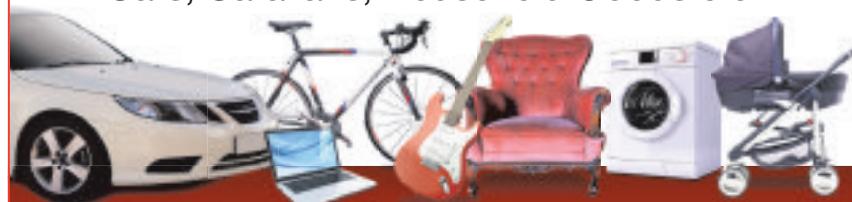
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## CHOICE



Claudia Winkleman

## Strictly Come Dancing – The Launch Show (BBC1, 7.15pm)

Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman host the launch event, featuring performances by singers Jess Glynne and Gregory Porter, in which this year's celebrities meet their dance partners for the first time. Among the celebrities taking part are Jeremy Vine, Ainsley Harriott, Kellie Bright, Georgina May Foote, Katie Derham, Carol Kirkwood, Peter Andre, Daniel O'Donnell and Anthony Ogogo. Last year's reigning champions Caroline Flack and Pasha Kovalev return to the ballroom for one last performance.

## BBC1

**6.00 Breakfast.** **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.30** Terry and Mason's Great Food Trip. (R) **12.00** BBC News: Weather. **12.10** Football Focus. **12.50** Live Rowing. The World Championships. **2.30** Motelworld. **3.30** Bargain Hunt. (R) **4.15** Escalate to the Country. (R) **5.00** Formula 1: Italian Grand Prix Qualifying Highlights. Suzi Perry introduces action from the session at the Autodromo Nazionale Monza, where the 12th round of the season is set to take place. **6.10** BBC News. **6.20** Regional Programme. **6.30** Pointless Celebrities. Alexander Armstrong and Richard Osman present the general knowledge quiz with famous faces from television comedies, including Nigel Planer and Jeremy Dyson. **7.15** Strictly Come Dancing – The Launch Show. Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman host the launch event, as this year's celebrities meet their professional partners, and there is music by singers Jess Glynne and Gregory Porter. **8.35** The National Lottery: Five Star Family Reunion. A UK family and their long-lost overseas relatives must work together in order to win a once-in-a-lifetime reunion in a five-star location. The overseas family must answer questions to win time for their relatives in the UK studio, who will then individually answer questions against the clock. Nick Knowles hosts. Includes the all-important weekend draw. **9.30** Casualty. Zoe convinces a bride-to-be to postpone her wedding after the groom passes out in a condemned building on his stag do. Meanwhile, Iain faces an assault charge after an altercation with a traffic warden and Louise must try to overcome challenges as she struggles on her first day of nursing. **10.20** BBC News: Weather. **10.40** Mrs Brown's Boys: (R) National Lottery Update. **11.10** Film: Meet the Fockers. (2004) A hapless groom-to-be faces a new ordeal when he takes his staid prospective in-laws to Florida to meet his eccentric parents. Comedy sequel, with Ben Stiller and Robert De Niro. **12.55** Film: Black Eagle. (1988) 2.30 This is BBC Two.

## BBC2

**6.25** Film: The Secret Life of Walter Mitty. (1947) **8.10** Film: Hans Christian Andersen. (1952) **10.00** Animal Park. (R) **11.00** More Creatures Great and Small. (R) **12.00** The World's Great Food Trip. (R) **12.30** Great British Menu. (R) **1.00** Great British Menu. (R) **1.30** Great British Menu. (R) **2.00** Fog It! (R) **2.40** Film: That's Entertainment! III. (1994) **4.30** The Hairy Bikers' Northern Exposure. (R) **5.30** Gardeners' World. (R) **6.00** International Rugby Union. England v Ireland. Highlights of the Test match at Twickenham, which represented the final fixture for both teams ahead of the Rugby World Cup starting on 18 September. **7.00** Proms Extra 2015. Katie Herham looks back at the whole series, as well as focusing on Sir Andras Schiff and his performance of pieces including Bach's Goldberg Variations. **7.40** Ireland's Wild River: The Mighty Shannon – Natural World. Naturalist and cameraman Colin Staff-Johnson takes a canoe journey along the River Shannon, revealing the wildlife that live in the water and along the banks. (R) **8.40** Dad's Army. The men of the Walmington-on-Sea Home Guard platoon take charge when a large naval gun is delivered to the church hall. Classic comedy, starring Arthur Lowe and John Le Mesurier. (R) **9.10** Goodness Gracious Me Special. One-off edition of the British-Asian sketch show, including a visit to the trenches of the First World War with Captain Brownadder. Starring Meera Syal and Sanjeev Bhaskar. (R) **9.40** Cradle to Grave. Comedy based on the early life of Danny Baker, starring Peter Kay and Lucy Speed. It is 1974, and 15-year-old Danny gets a West End experience he will never forget. (R) **10.10** Boy Meets Girl. Comedy about a man who falls for a transgender woman. (R) **10.40** Country Stripe: Abz on the Farm. The first winter puts Abz and Vicky to the test. Last in the series. (R) **11.10** Film: Boyz N the Hood. (1991) Drama, with Cuba Gooding Jr. **12.55** Film: Black Eagle. (1988) 2.30 This is BBC Two.

## ITV

**6.00** CITV: The Aquabats! Super Show! **6.25** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan. (R) **6.45** Dino Dan. (R) **7.00** Sooty. (R) **7.15** Sooty. (R) **7.30** Super 4. (R) **7.45** Fish Hooks. (R) **8.00** Young Justice: Invasion. (R) **8.15** The New Adventures of Peter Pan. (R) **8.25** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **10.20** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **12.25** ITV News: Weather. **12.35** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **1.40** All Star Family Fortunes. (R) **2.25** You've Been Framed! (R) **2.55** The X Factor. (R) **4.00** Regional Programme; Weather. **4.15** ITV News: Weather. **4.30** Euro 2016 Qualifier: San Marino v England (Kick-off 5.00pm). **7.15** Keep It in the Family. Bradley Walsh hosts the game show in which families from Kent and Luton go head to head in a series of fun-filled rounds. Six stars from last year's I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here face the drop as the teams decide whether to swap a prize, drop it or keep it in the family, and there are performances from an American human drumming act and a children's musical theatre group, singing a favourite number from Bugsy Malone. **8.15** The X Factor. Olly Murs and Caroline Flack host proceedings as the audition stages continue, with more hopeful comedians seek to win over the judges and secure a place at the Boot Camp. Doing so will first mean that they must face the collective criticism of Simon Cowell, Cheryl Fernandez-Versini, Nick Grimshaw and Rita Ora. **9.30** Through the Keyhole. Pop star Kimberly Walsh, chat-show host Jonathan Ross and presenter Andi Peters make up this week's panel as Keith Lemon noses around the homes of mystery stars, rummaging through their most treasured possessions. With the help of the studio audience, the panelists use clues highlighted along each tour to work out which famous faces have agreed to hand over their house keys to the Celebrity Juice funnyman. **10.30** ITV News: Weather. **10.45** Euro 2016 Qualifier Highlights. Action from the latest qualifying matches, including Cyprus v Wales, Georgia v Scotland, Faroe Islands v Northern Ireland and San Marino v England. **12.15** The Cube. (R) **1.05** Jackpot247. 3.00 Show Me the Telly. (R) **3.50** ITV Newscreen.

## CHANNEL 4

**6.15** How I Met Your Mother. (R) **6.40** How I Met Your Mother. (R) **7.05** Outlaw Triathlon. **8.00** The Morning Line. **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Frasier. (R) **10.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.45** The Simpsons. (R) **12.30** The Simpsons. (R) **1.00** Rude(ish) Tube. **1.30** Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Haydock Park, Kempton Park and Ascot. **4.10** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.45** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.15** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.45** Come Dine with Me. (R) **6.15** Come Dine with Me. It is final dinner party in Gloucestershire and the turn of hair salon owner Chris to host a evening of home-made treats, while the guests make a discovery in the living room. (R) **6.40** Channel 4 News. **7.00** Great Canal Journeys. Timothy West and Prunella Scales conclude their odyssey in the Burgundy region of France, where they travel along the Canal du Nivernais, which passes through towns and villages steeped in history. The duo also visit the market town of Chablis to help with the annual grape harvest and the medieval city of Auxerre before reflecting on what the gathering has meant to them as a married couple. Last in the series. **8.00** Our Guy in India. Guy Martin takes a 1,000-mile journey across India to compete in a race called Rider Mania, the world's largest gathering of Royal Enfield motorcycles. In the first of two programmes, the daredevil rides with a 50-strong biker gang, visits Asia's biggest truck yard and finds himself completely out of his comfort zone. (R) **9.00** It Was Alright in the 1970s. New series. Matt Lucas narrates another look back at the decade's TV shows, beginning with 70s-style education, including the lessons learnt from television about society and sex. **10.00** Film: Immortals. (2011) A man is chosen by the Greek gods to prevent a power-mad king from conquering the human and immortal worlds. Mythological adventure, with Henry Cavill. **12.15** Film: The Double. (2013) 1.50 The Last Leg. (R) **2.45** Hollyoaks. (R) **4.55** Selling Houses with Amanda Lamb. **5.50** 1001 Things You Should Know. (R) **6.00** Milkshake! **10.00** SpongeBob SquarePants. **10.35** Beware! Cowboys Abroad. (R) **11.30** Film: McLintock! (1963) 2.05 Film: The Merchant of Venice, starring James Stewart. **4.10** Psycho Pass. **4.45** When Cats Attack. (R) **5.10** Elizabeth II: The Queen's Reign. **6.05** The Nightmare Before Next Door. A group of residents in Gullford object when the occupant of a one-bedroom council flat decides to transform his home into a "cannabis cafe". Having turned a blind eye to their unruly neighbour's all-night parties and unwelcome lodgers, this latest development proves to be a step too far. In a small community in Wales, new arrivals cause a stir when they decide to convert a local pub into their new home, and in Lincolnshire, a young father becomes the victim of a violent assault after asking the man living in the flat below his to keep the noise down. (R) **7.00** Cricket on 5. England v Australia. Action from the second contest in the five-match series, which took place at Lord's. **7.55** 5 News Weekends. **8.00** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. Brian O'Shaughnessy and Graham Aldred's first case sees them in Brighton health spa as they search for assets to seize in pursuit of a £20,000 debt. Following a stand-off, the couple work with the owner and his professional advisers to come up with a solution. Later, Graham reveals his softer side when he visits a woman who defaulted on a debt payment plan. (R) **9.00** Football League Tonight. Kelly Cates and George Riley present extended highlights of the weekend's top matches, including Southend United v Peterborough United and Chesterfield v Wigan Athletic, as well as all the goals from League One and League Two. **10.30** Celebrity Big Brother. **11.30** Tattoo Disasters UK. A drunken man who used a tattoo gun to etch names on his arms, and a needle-phobic university student whose ear piercing led to a fight for her life. (R) **12.00** SuperCasino. **3.10** Celebrity Big Brother. (R) **4.00** Transporter: The Series. **4.45** Access. **4.50** Make It Big. (R) **5.45** Angels of Jarm. (R)

## DIGITAL

**BBC Three** **7.00** Great Movie Mistakes **7.15** Don't Tell the Bride **8.15** Top Gear Vietnam Special **9.30** Film: Deep Impact (1998) **11.20** Family Guy **1.15** Top Coppers **1.45** Fried **2.15** Impractical Jokers **3.45** Sunny **4.00** Close **BBC Four** **7.00** India's Frontier Railways **8.00** Sicily Unpacked **9.00** The Young Montalbano **10.55** Kate Bush at the BBC **11.55** The Kate Bush Story: Running Up That Hill **12.55** Sounds of the Eighties **1.25** The Fight for Saturday Night **2.55** India's Frontier Railways **3.55** Close **ITV2** **12.00** The Xtra Factor **1.05** You've Been Framed **2.10** Catchphrase **2.55** Film: Small Soldiers (1998) **5.10** Film: Peter Pan (2003) **7.20** Film: Dante's Peak (1997) **9.30** The Xtra Factor **10.30** Film: American Pie (1999) **11.30** Film: The Godfather (1972) **12.35** Tricked: Movie Favourite Tricks 1. **4.40** Fake Reception 2. **4.55** Totally Bonkers **Guinness World Records 2.40** The Hot Desk: Ella Henderson **2.50** Teleshopping **5.50** ITV2 Nightscreen **ITV3** **1.30** Film: The Belles of St Trinian's (1954) **3.20** Agatha Christie's Murders **5.25** Film: Columbo: The Bye-Bye Sky-High **6.00** Film: Underworld (1977) **7.00** Doc Martin **8.00** Lewis **10.00** A Touch of Frost **12.15** Wire in the Blood **1.40** On the Buses **2.05** ITV3 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping **ITV4** **11.50** War of the Heroes **12.20** The Professionals **2.25** Fawcett Stars **3.20** Film: Destry (1945) **5.20** Film: Gunsmoke (1953) **7.00** Cycling **8.00** Film: Police Academy 2: Their First Assignment (1985) **9.50** Film: The Sentinel (2006) **12.05** Cycling **1.00** The Cycle Show **1.55** Alan Smith and Jones **2.50** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping **E4** **11.00** How I Met Your Mother **12.00** Made in Chelsea **1.00** The Goldbergs **2.00** Melissa & Joey **3.00** Film: Angus, Thongs and Perfect Snogging (2008) **5.00** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** Film: Priest (2011) **10.50** Rude Tube **11.55** Bad Robot **12.25** Gogglebox **2.30** How I Met Your Mother **4.25** Suburgatory **5.10** Revenge **Film4** **11.00** Carry On Behind (1970) **1.00** Big Fish (2003) **3.25** The Longest Day (1942) **7.00** 17 Again (2009) **9.00** The Hunger Games (2012) **11.45** The Happening (2008) **1.30** Shutter (2008) **3.20** Close

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## CHOICE



James Norton

## BBC1

**6.00 Breakfast.** **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Sunday Morning Live. **11.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **12.00** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **2.15** Escape to the Country. (R) **2.45** Great British Bake Off. (R) **3.10** Points of View. **4.25** Songs of Praise. **5.05** Gospel Choir of the Year. **5.05** Formula 1: Italian Grand Prix – Highlights. Action from the 12th round of the season at the Autodromo Nazionale Monza, where title contenders Lewis Hamilton, Nico Rosberg and Sebastian Vettel battled for precious points. **6.35** BBC News. **6.50** Regional Programme. **7.00** Countryfile. John Craven takes to the skies with the Environment Agency in Cumbria to discover a new line of defence in the battle against flooding, which involves restoring rivers to their original meandering routes. Anita Rani meets a rural farming community that lost its livelihood to foot and mouth disease, and the horse whisperer whose life was turned around by her love of the animals. Plus, The One Man and His Dog sheepdog trial teams are profiled, with Adam Henson visiting the Ireland squad, and Charlotte Smith heading to Scotland. Including Weather for the Week Ahead. **8.00** Antiques Roadshow. New series. Fiona Bruce and the team return to examine more items brought in by viewers, beginning with a visit to Plas Newydd Country House and Gardens on Anglesey. Collectibles assessed include a Victorian cane carved with an image of the Menai suspension bridge, an 18th century grandfather clock, and two giant toy giraffes. **9.00** Lady Chatterley's Lover. Adaptation of DH Lawrence's novel about an aristocratic woman who embarks on a passionate affair with her disabled husband's gamekeeper. **10.30** BBC News. **10.50** Regional Programme. **11.00** Kolkata with Sue Perkins. Sue Perkins details how the West Bengal state capital, formerly known as Calcutta, discarded its Colonial heritage to become a 21st-century city with a reputation for tolerance. (R) **12.00** Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.05** BBC News.

## BBC2

**6.15** The Instant Gardener. (R) **7.00** Countryfile. (R) **8.00** Gardeners' Garden. **9.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **10.30** Terry and Mason's Great Food Trip. (R) **11.00** Great British Bake Off. (R) **1.30** Great British Menu. (R) **12.00** Live Racing. **2.00** Natural World: Wildlife – Secrets of the Lost Garden. (R) **3.00** Burghley Horse Trials. **5.00** Jungle Atlantis. (R) **6.00** World's Weirdest Events. Chris Packham presents this documentary, unlocking secrets behind unusual occurrences, beginning with a monkey that knows first aid and a bird-killing solar death ray. (R) **7.00** World's Busiest Railway 2015. Dan Snow, Anita Rani and Robert Llewellyn go behind the scenes at Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus to find out what role it plays in long distance travel across India. (R) **8.00** Dragons' Den. Entrepreneurs pitch their money-making ideas, including a storage business for public schools, flat pack furniture and an invention to assist dog and horse owners. **9.00** Special Forces – Ultimate Hell Week. A former Israeli counter-terrorism operative puts the remaining 22 contestants through their paces, including trying to remove a Land Rover from a mud pit with their bare hands. **10.00** Odyssey. Odelle and Luc's hopes of leading a quiet life in Algeria are shattered when Odelle finds herself thrust into the media spotlight after rescuing a drowning girl. **10.40** Family Guy. Peter discovers his first name is actually Justin, and takes on the new moniker to create a younger, hipper alter-ego, before holding a party. **11.05** Family Guy. Meg has fun partying with Peter when he takes her to a college, and Brian has to learn how to live in the wild after being sprayed by a skunk and forbidden from entering the house. **11.25** Family Guy. **11.45** Film: Soul Men. (2008) A soul-singing duo who have not spoken in years since falling out over a woman travel across America to perform at a tribute concert. Comedy, with Samuel L Jackson. **1.25** Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **2.20** Holby City. (R) **3.20** This is BBC Two. **3.35** Jackpot247. **3.00** Motorsport UK. **3.50** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

## ITV

**6.00** CITV: The Aquabats! Super Show! **6.15** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan. (R) **6.45** Dino Dan. (R) **7.00** Sooty. (R) **7.15** Clangers. (R) **7.30** Super 4. (R) **7.45** Fish Hooks. (R) **8.00** Young and Innocent. (R) **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Weather. She Wrote. She Wrote. **8.30** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **11.30** ITV News; Weather. **11.45** The X Factor. (R) **1.00** Cycling: Tour of Britain Live. Coverage of the opening stage of the race. **4.00** Catchphrase. (R) **4.45** Film: Mr Bean's Holiday. (2007) Comedy, starring Rowan Atkinson. **6.15** Regional Programme; Weather. **6.30** ITV News: Weather. **6.45** Animal Mums. How young animals copy their mother to learn new skills that are vital to keep them a live in the wild, including cheetah cubs learning how to hunt, with Liesl Eichenberger of the Sanbona Reserve in South Africa explaining the different stages of hunt school. Gorilla researcher Eva Maria Luef reveals the different gestures used to beg for food from their mother and initiate play. Last in the series. **7.45** The X Factor. Caroline Flack and Olly Murs present further coverage of the audition process, as another batch of applicants perform in front of judges Simon Cowell, Cheryl Fernandez-Versini, Nick Grimshaw and Rita Ora, as well as an arena audience of thousands, in the hope of winning one of the coveted places at the Boot Camp. **9.00** The Trials of Jimmy Rose. Jimmy sees a local drifter, meeting Tom, a London partner in crime, whose violent actions led to an increase in his sentence. When he learns that Ellie and Aaron are in trouble because of his actions, Jimmy finds himself forced to consider working with Tony once again. Jackie has an encounter with the police and is forced to lie to them, leaving her convinced that her husband cannot change. Drama, starring Ray Winstone. **10.00** ITV News: Weather. **10.15** Film: Notting Hill. (1999) A London bookseller owner fails for a glamorous Hollywood film star, but intrusive media interest makes for a tricky relationship. Romantic comedy, with Hugh Grant and Julia Roberts. **12.35** Jackpot247. **3.00** Motorsport UK. **3.50** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

## CHANNEL 4

**6.15** How I Met Your Mother. (R) **6.40** How I Met Your Mother. (R) **7.05** British Soap. (R) **7.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Night at the Movies. (R) **9.45** Big Big Theory. (R) **1.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.55** The Simpsons. (R) **2.25** The Simpsons. (R) **2.55** The Simpsons. (R) **3.25** Phil Spencer: Secret Agent. **4.25** Location, Location, Location. (R) **5.30** A Place in the Sun: Home or Away. **6.30** Channel 4 News. **7.00** The Queen's Big Night Out. The story of VE Day 1945, when the future Queen and Princess Margaret joined revellers on the streets of London on May 8 to celebrate the end of the Second World War in Europe. (R) **8.00** Time Crashers. The celebrities experience life as servants in an Edwardian stately home in 1913, where the staff have to answer to a stern butler and a strict housekeeper. Kirstie Alley is excited to be the Lady's maid, but the aloof manner of her mistress doesn't go down well with the Hollywood star. Greg Rutherford takes his duties seriously, including emptying Keith Allen's chamber pot, and disaster strikes when housemaid Fern Britton drops some cake. The realities of life below stairs hit home as one of the celebrities is unceremoniously dismissed for refusing to carry out her duties. Presented by Tony Robinson. **9.00** Film: Iron Man 2. (2010) Promising. Tyrant-turned-superhero Tony Stark confronts a fearsome new foe in a Russian scientist using his own deadly hi-tech weapons to seek revenge. He also faces a struggle to keep his secrets out of the hands of both the government and an amoral rival, and discovers the armour he developed to fight evil is slowly killing him. Action adventure sequel, with Robert Downey Jr, Mickey Rourke and Don Cheadle. **10.15** Film: The Hurt Locker. (2008) A US bomb disposal team in Iraq is assigned a new leader whose reckless attitude puts all its members lives at risk. Kathryn Bigelow's drama, with Jeremy Renner and Anthony Mackie. **1.40** Film: Rust and Bone. (2012) **3.45** Come Dine with Me. (R)

## CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **6.20** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **6.30** Pip Ahoy! (R) **6.45** Ticky Toc. (R) **6.55** Come to the Closet. (R) **7.10** Rockabarb and Custard Fodder. (R) **7.15** Mr. Potato Head. (R) **7.30** Peter Pan Patrol. (R) **7.40** Little Prince. (R) **8.00** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **8.10** Zack and Quack. **8.25** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **8.40** Jolly Jamm. (R) **9.00** LazTown. (R) **9.25** Dora and Friends. (R) **9.55** SpongeBob SquarePants. **10.30** Football League Tonight. (R) **12.00** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.55** Film: Message in a Bottle. (1999) Romantic drama, with Kevin Costner and Robin Wright. **1.30** Film: White Fang. (1991) Adventure, starring Ethan Hawke. **5.25** Film: Superman II. (1980) Comic-strip adventure sequel, with Christopher Reeve. **8.00** 5 News Weekend. **8.05** Police Interceptors Unleashed with Vinnie Jones. A drug dealer acts casually when officers burst through his door, but cannot hide the cannabis farm which is taking up a third of his house. Plus, an operation to tackle cash-point thieves turns up some nasty weapons. The Essex interceptors rescue a man from his flooded flat, and in Lincolnshire a vocal drunk seems a little too keen to receive a full cavity search. Presented by Vinnie Jones. (R) **9.00** Celebrity Big Brother. A chance to catch up with the latest events inside the house as the celebrities cope with living under constant surveillance, with all the arguments and alliances, as well as the revelations in the diary room. **10.00** 20 Moments That Rocked the 90s. Cold Feet Star Helen Baxendale presents a countdown of memorable moments from the 1990s, including the death of Diana, Princess of Wales and the chart battle between Blur and Oasis. **11.30** Film: Alien Hunter. (2003) Scientists examine an alien artefact found in Antarctica, only to unleash a strange creature and a deadly flesh-eating virus. Sci-fi thriller, starring James Spader and Janine Ester. **1.10** SuperCasino. Live interactive gaming. **3.10** Beware: The Cops Are Watching. (R) **4.00** House Doctor. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **5.45** Angels of Jarm. (R)

## DIGITAL

**BBC Three** **7.00** Great Movie Mistakes III: Not in 3D **7.05** Film: Shrek Forever After. (2010) **8.30** World's Craziest Fools. **9.00** Film: Jarhead (2005) **11.00** Russell Howard's Good News Extra **12.15** Family Guy **12.30** American Dad! **12.50** Family Guy **1.15** Top Coppers **1.40** Secrets of China **2.40** Don't Tell the Bride **3.40** Radges **3.55** Close **BBC Four** **7.00** BBC Proms Sunday Symphony **8.00** Nina Simone & Me with Laura Mvula **8.30** Nicola Benedetti's Indian Serenade **9.00** Bollywood and Beyond: A Century of Indian Cinema **10.30** Van Morrison: Up on Cytar **11.30** The Lizard King **12.30** Reputation **12.30** The Joy of the Guitar Riff **1.30** The Kinks at the BBC **2.30** Nina Simone & Me with Laura Mvula **3.00** Nicola Benedetti's Indian Serenade **3.30** Close **ITV2** **12.20** Film: Cats & Dogs (2001) **2.05** Film: The Flintstones (1994) **3.50** Film: The Bean **4.20** Film: The X-Files **5.35** The Xtra Factor **6.00** The Xtra Factor **6.10** Film: Pitch Black (2000) **12.15** Safeworld 1.0 **1.00** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **1.25** Vip Tap **2.05** Animal Practice **2.30** Teleshopping **ITV3** **12.25** Agatha Christie's Marple **2.25** Lewis **4.35** Inspector Morse **6.55** Agatha Christie's Marple **9.00** It'll Be Alright on the Night **10.00** Birds of a Feather **10.30** Northern Lights **11.30** Film: Meet Joe Black (1998) **2.50** ITV3 Nightscreen **3.15** Emmerdale **ITV4** **5.45** Movies Now **6.00** Pawn Stars **6.25** Cycling **7.30** Euro 2016 Qualifier. Italy v Bulgaria (Kick-off 17:00) **8.00** 10.00 Cycling: Tour of Britain **11.00** Film: TT: Closer to the Edge (2011) **1.05** Cycling **2.05** Hell on Wheels **3.00** Teleshopping **4** **12.30** Couples Come Dine with Me **2.35** Bad Girls **3.00** Rude (ish) **3.30** The Big Bang Theory **4.30** Film: Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (2009) **6.20** Rude (ish) **7.00** Tube Shorts **6.30** The Big Bang Theory **10.30** Googlebox **12.35** Young, Free & Single **1.40** Rules of Engagement **2.30** 2 Broke Girls **2.50** Googlebox **3.45** Hollywoods **5** **11.00** Honey, I Shrunk the Kids (1989) **1.00** Black Knight (2001) **2.45** Ice Age: Continental Drift (2012) **4.30** The Death and Life of Charlie St Cloud (2010) **6.25** We Bought a Zoo (2011) **9.00** Shutter Island (2010) **11.40** Weekend (2011) **1.40** Blue Valentine (2010) **4.00** Close



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## FILM CHOICES

## MONDAY

**Heart of the Country**, Channel 5, 3.15pm

The wife of a Wall Street stockbroker finds her glamorous existence brought crashing to a halt when her husband is imprisoned for fraud. Forced to return to rural North Carolina where she grew up, she attempts to make peace with her estranged father and deal with unresolved issues surrounding the death of her mother. Drama, starring Jana Kramer. (2013)

## TUESDAY

**My Neighbour's Keeper**, Channel 5, 3.10pm

A woman unable to have children adopts her dead friend's kids, only to arouse suspicion that she killed their mother to gain a family. Drama, with Laura Harring and Linden Ashby. Edited for daytime broadcast. (2007)

## WEDNESDAY

**Deadly Pursuit**, BBC1, 11.35pm

A big-city FBI agent heads into the rugged terrain of America's Pacific North West on the trail of a killer. When the criminal heads into the hills, the street-smart cop is forced to team up with a mountain guide to catch his target. Thriller, starring Sidney Poitier, Tom Berenger, Kirstie Alley and Clancy Brown. (1988)



Deadly Pursuit, Wednesday, BBC1, 11.35pm

## THURSDAY

**Garage Sale Mystery III: The Deadly Room**, Channel 5, 3.15pm

Jennifer Shannon has a keen eye for a bargain, picking them up at garage sales and selling them for a tidy profit in her own shop. But she also has a nose for a mystery, which comes in handy when she uses her intuitive skills to investigate her friend's death in a multi-million-dollar home with a dark history. Crime drama, starring Lori Loughlin. (2015)

## FRIDAY

**Rabbit Hole**, BBC2, 11.05pm

A couple's happy lives are thrown into upheaval by the death of their son in a road accident. As they try to keep their marriage from falling apart, the wife forms a friendship with the driver responsible for the tragedy while the husband immerses himself in the past and turns to another bereaved parent for support. Drama, with Nicole Kidman and Sandra Oh. (2010)

## New adaptation hopes to be a novel success

Here's a fact that may make some of those reading this article feel a little old – it's 22 years since Ken Russell's adaptation of DH Lawrence's controversial novel hit our TV screens.

Back then, the sight of Sean Bean's nether regions as he ran through the woods while chasing a naked Joey Richardson raised eyebrows and temperatures – and those who have seen the latest version of the tale claim it's all set to shock a new generation too.

Yes, even in an age where almost anything can be depicted on screen or at least in Game of Thrones anyway – some people can still be surprised by what appears on a TV screen in the 21st century.

However, Richard Madden, who also stars in the aforementioned adaptations of author George RR Martin's work, is quick to allay any fears that this take is nothing but a long, sordid romp.

"Come on guys, we've got Google," he laughs. "There's nothing that's going to shock us that we're going to

do in Lady Chatterley's Lover, is there?"

All that stigma, all that smut's gone and it's actually just about these three people, which is the fascinating story of it. There's sex and passion in it, but we're not going to shock people like the book did."

The original novel was published in an abridged form in Britain in 1932; it took another 28 years before a full, unexpurgated version hit shelves, leading to an infamous obscenity trial involving Penguin Books. The publisher was found innocent, and the novel has remained in circulation ever since.

The three people mentioned by Madden are Oliver Mellors, the gamekeeper he himself plays, and his employers – Sir Clifford Chatterley and his wife, Constance.

The Chatterleys are happily married until Sir Clifford returns from the First World War. Left impotent and wheelchair-bound by wounds suffered on the front line, he is a shadow of the dashing aristocrat he once was. As he becomes increasingly distant,

Constance finds herself becoming drawn to the brooding and lonely Mellors.

In 1920s Britain, the idea of a servant caving in with a member of the upper classes was shocking, scandalous and could end with them both being ostracised by their peers. Nevertheless, Mellors and Constance embark on an affair.

Sir Clifford begins to suspect something is going on, and despite his disabilities, it's clear his vengeance will be ruthless if the truth comes out.

Playing the Chatterleys are James Norton and Holliday Grainger, but it's Madden who is gaining the most attention from his participation in the project.

The trailer shows him bare-chested, and some observers have suggested the role could do for his career what Poldark has done for Aidan Turner's.

The screenplay has been penned by Jed Mercurio, whose previous credits include Bodies, Cardiac Arrest, The Grimleys and Line of Duty. A novelist himself, it would appear that Lawrence's work is in safe hands.



Holliday Grainger stars in *Lady Chatterley's Lover*, Sunday, BBC1, 9pm

## BEST OF THE REST

## MONDAY

**Doc Martin**, ITV, 9pm

New series. The return of the comedy drama about the lives of a GP and his patients in a seaside village in Cornwall. With Louisa visiting her mother in Spain to get some perspective on their marriage, Martin knows he needs to try to change for the sake of their relationship, so he endeavours to keep his promise to her to see a therapist. Aunt Ruth arranges an appointment for him with Dr Rachel Timoney, but a lifeboat training exercise causes problems for the doctor. Will he get back in time for his first session? Martin Clunes stars.

## TUESDAY

**Euro 2016 Qualifier**, ITV, 7.15pm

Following their exploits in San Marino at the weekend, England welcome Switzerland to Wembley for their latest Group E qualifier. When the draw was initially made, tonight's visitors were regarded as the strongest opponents Roy Hodgson's men would encounter throughout the qualification process, but the reverse fixture at St Jakob-Park last September saw England claim a 2-0 win following a convincing performance, with both goals coming from Danny Welbeck. The Swiss

– who were once managed by Hodgson – are likely to include several players familiar to the Premier League among their ranks, including Xherdan Shaqiri, Valon Behrami and captain Gokhan Inler, who joined Stoke City, Watford and Leicester City respectively at the start of this season.

## WEDNESDAY

**Doctor Foster**, BBC1, 9pm

It's tempting to turn the TV off and grab yourself a cuppa and a slice of cake once The Great British Bake Off has finished, but from this week, the smart thing to do would be to stay put on the sofa for this new drama. Written by award-winning playwright Mike Bartlett, it stars Suranne Jones as Dr Gemma Foster, a trusted GP with a thriving practice at the heart of a community. She seems to have the perfect life and be in complete control of everything thrown at her – until she begins to suspect that her husband (Jonathan Strange & Mr Norrell's Bertie Carvel) is having an affair. Suddenly, Dr Foster is in turmoil, and begins an obsessive quest to unearth the truth.

## THURSDAY

**Hunted**, Channel 4, 9pm

New series. In today's hi-tech world, where there is a CCTV camera on every corner and everything people do is monitored – from cash withdrawals and supermarket shopping to telephone calls and social media posts – how easy would it be to simply disappear? That's the challenge facing a group of ordinary British people in this social experiment which sees them going on the run and taking extreme measures to avoid detection.

Where they go and what they do is entirely up to them – but with a team of expert 'hunters' tracking them down, the task promises to be a tough one.

**Cradle to Grave**, BBC2, 9pm

Continuing the 1970s-set sitcom based on the early life of radio DJ and writer Danny Baker. Things are looking up

Euro 2016 Qualifier, Tuesday, ITV, 7.15pm

for the future broadcaster when he has a few lessons in biology – both at school and in the bedroom. Meanwhile, his parents Bet and Fred expand their horizons with such rich new experiences as wine, a night out at the Bermundsey small retailers' dinner dance and the piece de resistance – a caravan holiday in Dymchurch. Starring Peter Kay and Lucy Speed, with Laurie Kynaston as the young Danny.

## FRIDAY

**Ripper Street**, BBC1, 9pm

Who'd be a woman in 19th-century London? If *Ripper Street* is anything to go by, even if you somehow manage to avoid being murdered, there are plenty of others ways to become a victim. In this penultimate episode, it's the shadowy world of illegal abortionists that's thrust into the spotlight following the death of a chemist. Dr Frayn is keen to modernise the practices at the Obsidian Clinic to help the women affected, but she shouldn't count on Long Susan for support, as she's having enough trouble keeping one of her current business ventures going. Meanwhile, Reid is still in Whitechapel, supposedly because Mathilda wants to stay, but does he have his own reasons for not moving on?

# Are you a member of a local voluntary group?

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# Charming property with outdoor swimming pool



A CHARMING period detached family home in Wartell Bank, Kingswinford, is close to the heart of town, and has a beautiful rear garden with a swimming pool.

Having spacious and attractively improved accommodation, it is for sale through Taylors at £199,950 with no chain.

With a conservatory extension it has an attractively refitted kitchen with modern wood-effect units and wood-effect working surfaces and appliances, a re-appointed ground-floor bathroom, a reception hall, an L-shaped lounge and dining area, three large bedrooms, gas central heating and double glazing.

There is also an asphalt driveway.

For further information contact Taylors on 01384 401777 or visit the agent's website at [www.taylors-stateagents.co.uk](http://www.taylors-stateagents.co.uk)



## Semi with mature garden at £139,950



WITH good access to the M5 and close to schools and Warley Woods and golf course, this extended three-bedroomed semi-detached house in Broadway, Oldbury, is for sale through Robert Oulsnam at £139,950 with no chain.

Requiring some general updating and with off-road parking it has a storm porch, reception hall, two reception rooms (both with bay windows), a kitchen and a utility room.

There are also three bedrooms, a study, a bathroom with a coloured suite and wall tiling and a garage and a mature rear garden which is mainly lawned with flower borders.

Contact Robert Oulsnam on 0121 4299986 or visit [www.oulsnam.net](http://www.oulsnam.net)



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## Halesowen Office Lettings & Property Management



**HALESOWEN**, Romsley Close £875 pcm+ Fees  
A fully newly refurbished, extended 4/5 bedroom modern semi-detached house in this very popular central Halesowen location close to local schools. Accommodation comprises of: Entrance hallway, fitted kitchen, utility, large lounge with patio doors, study/stairs downstairs, bedroom, upstairs family bathroom, 4 good size bedrooms, gas central heating, garage & driveway parking. EPC: TBC



**BRIERLEY HILL**, Gayfield Avenue £775 pcm+ Fees  
Superb modern & totally refurbished 4 bedroom detached house on this very popular estate. (Withymoor Village) Featuring an entrance hall leading to study room, downstairs w.c, large lounge with separate dining room, fitted kitchen with 'Country Chef' range cooker, 3 double bedrooms & 1 single, family bathroom with shower, garage & driveway. Not to be missed!! EPC: C



**HALESOWEN**, Grange Road £750 pcm+ Fees  
A fantastic opportunity to rent this lovely traditional semi-detached house in central Halesowen. This property comprises of: Front reception room, rear lounge, modern fitted kitchen, beautiful rear garden, 3 good size bedrooms, bathroom with shower, garage. EPC: D



**HALESOWEN**, Blackberry Lane £995 pcm+ Fees  
A superb recently decorated throughout including new carpets is this 3 bedroom semi-detached house in central Halesowen. This lovely home has a welcoming hallway, 2 reception rooms, fitted kitchen, conservatory, downstairs wc, 3 good size bedrooms, bathroom with shower, gas central heating, front & rear gardens, driveway parking. EPC: E



**HALESOWEN**, Cherry Street £595 pcm+ Fees  
A well presented 2 bed mid terrace property within walking distance to Halesowen, local bus routes and shops. This house features 2 reception rooms, fitted kitchen with integrated appliances, downstairs bathroom with separate corner shower, 2 double bedrooms (1 with ensuite & 1 with w.c), low maintenance rear garden, gas central heating and double glazed. Ideally located for a number of schools and Halesowen College. EPC: D



**DEARWOOD**, St Marys Road £595 pcm+ Fees  
A 2 bedroom mid terrace house located in this very popular area of Bearwood. The property offers spacious accommodation with 2 reception rooms, kitchen with appliances, downstairs bathroom with shower over bath, 2 double bedrooms. Private rear garden. On road parking. EPC: TBC



**CRADLEY HEATH**, Hollybush Walk £575 pcm+ Fees  
An unfurnished fully refurbished mid terrace house ideally located in Cradley Heath shops, bus and train links. Featuring 3 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, bathroom, separate wc, fitted kitchen, gas central heating, double glazing, brand new bathroom with shower, driveway parking, front and rear gardens. EPC: TBC



**HALESOWEN**, Talbot Street £550 pcm+ Fees  
• 1ST MONTHS RENT HALF PRICE • Step inside this fantastic 3 bedroom terrace property and have the opportunity to be the first to own this lovely home. Recently decorated throughout, lovely kitchen, fully tiled bathroom, windows & doors, carpets and gas central heating system. The property also benefits from patio doors leading onto the garden and an electric shower over the bath. EPC: E



**HALESOWEN**, Stourbridge Road £495 pcm+ Fees  
A beautiful 2 bedroom end terrace property conveniently located for businesses and Halesowen Town Centre. This property is a spacious layout, featuring a large kitchen with dining area, covered utility area, 2 bedrooms and house bathroom with shower, huge rear garden. Benefits also include gas central heating. On road parking. EPC: TBC



**SEDGLEY**, Tudor Vale £495 pcm+ Fees  
Located in this ever popular cul-de-sac is this end mews house, briefly comprising of: gas central heating, spacious living room, fitted dining kitchen, downstairs WC, 2 double bedrooms, bathroom with shower, rear garden, driveway parking, unfurnished. EPC: C



**TIPTON**, Ferguson Drive £480 pcm+ Fees  
A lovely modern 2nd floor apartment, briefly comprising of: 2 bedrooms, spacious lounge, fitted kitchen, bathroom with shower, electric storage heating, double glazing, 2 allocated parking spaces, communal gardens, internal viewing recommended. Deposit £750. EPC: TBC



**NETHERTON**, Round Street £475 pcm+ Fees  
Set in a quiet road, is this lovely, briefly comprising of: gas central heating, living room, fitted kitchen, 1 double and 1 single bedroom, house bathroom with shower, rear garden and driveway parking for 2 cars, unfurnished, a very popular area. Good transport links for Merry Hill. 2 MONTHS DEPOSIT. (THE GUARANTOR MUST BE A HOME OWNER, FAMILY MEMBER AND WORKING) EPC: E



**CRADLEY HEATH**, Pear Tree Lane £450 pcm+ Fees  
Modern 1st floor apartment situated on a popular development. Within walking distance to Old Hill train station and Old Hill shops. The property comprises of 1 large double bedroom and 1 single bedroom, gas central heating, spacious living room, fitted kitchen with small fridge, bathroom with shower, parking space, own rear garden, unfurnished. EPC: B



**HALESOWEN**, Manor Lane £450 pcm+ Fees  
Newly decorated. A spacious part furnished flat above a chinese take away, this flat features: gas central heating, living room with sofa, large fitted kitchen with white goods, double bedroom with bed and wardrobe, large shower room, secure parking at rear. Available immediately. EPC: TBC



**OLDBURY**, Causeway Green Road £425 pcm+ Fees  
This large, split level flat above shops, within walking distance to bus links and close to J2 of the M5, briefly comprising of: gas central heating, spacious living room, fitted kitchen, 2 double bedrooms, bathroom with shower, parking to rear, unfurnished. EPC: E



**CRADLEY HEATH**, Elbow Street £425 pcm+ Fees  
Unfurnished 2nd floor flat in a popular area which is ideal for shops, buses and Old Hill Train Station. Featuring 1 double bedroom, electric storage heating, spacious living room, fitted kitchen, bathroom with shower, communal garden, allocated parking. EPC: B



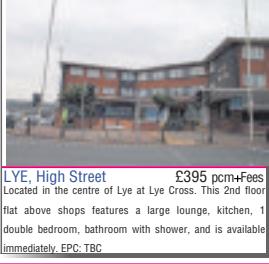
**CRADLEY HEATH**, Elbow Street £425 pcm+ Fees  
Set in the heart of Old Hill. A modern and spacious 2nd floor apartment, ideally situated for Old Hill train station and local amenities. The property comprises of: 2 double bedrooms, fitted kitchen with washer/dryer, modern bathroom with shower, large lounge, 1 allocated parking space. An opportunity not to be missed!! EPC: B



**LYE**, High Street £425 pcm+ Fees  
Located in the centre of Lye at Lye Cross. This split level flat above shops features a large lounge, kitchen with a dining area, 2 double bedrooms and a single bedroom, bathroom with shower, its own private garden terrace area, and is available immediately. EPC: TBC



**CRADLEY HEATH**, Trinity Street £395 pcm+ Fees  
House share in a large Victorian semi-detached home. Large furnished double bedroom available in this lovely period house. Kitchen, bathroom and large lounge are all shared facilities, wi-fi broadband. Rent to include all bills, 2 people sharing will be £100 pcm extra. Available now. EPC: E



**LYE**, High Street £395 pcm+ Fees  
Located in the centre of Lye at Lye Cross. This 2nd floor flat above shops features a large lounge, kitchen, 1 double bedroom, bathroom with shower, and is available immediately. EPC: TBC



**SELLY OAK**, Shenley Fields Road £375 pcm+ Fees  
Two 2nd floor rooms within a house of multiple occupation. The location is within the area of Royal Orthopaedic, Selly Oak and Queen Elizabeth hospitals as well as Birmingham University. The room benefits a fitted wardrobe and the rent includes the use of gas, electricity, water, 50MB broadband, Sky TV (including Sky Movies) and gardener.

# PROPERTY

## Impressive detached residence for family



**AN IMPRESSIVE** detached family residence with four bedrooms and four bathrooms in Gorge Road, Dudley, is on the edge of Sedgley.

It is for sale through Skitts Estate Agents at £265,000.

With central heating and double glazing, ample off-road parking and a good-sized rear garden, it has a porch, entrance hall, living room, a bathroom, sitting room, an L-shaped dining kitchen with an oven, hob, hood and microwave, two en suite bedrooms, two further bedrooms and a bathroom. Contact Skitts on 01902 686868 or visit website [www.skitts.net](http://www.skitts.net)



## Four bedrooms and a conservatory at home



**THIS** detached residence in Dawlish Road, Dudley, is considerably improved and expected to appeal to a variety of buyers due to its size. It is for sale through Your Move at £250,000.

With double glazing and gas central heating to the ground floor it has an entrance porch, an entrance hallway, front and rear living areas (with French doors opening out to the garden from the lounge), a formal dining room, a fitted kitchen, a conservatory, a cloakroom and utility area.

On the first floor there is a landing, four bedrooms and a house bathroom. The gated entrance leads to a driveway to a garage. The rear garden is mainly lawned with a substantial decked area.

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Local Specialists

# Classified Ads

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## Index

- 1 Family
- 2 Leisure Time
- 3 Home & Services
- 4 Pets & Animals
- 5 Business & Farming
- 6 Property
- 7 Jobs
- 8 Motoring
- 9 Local Information
- 10 Personals

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family run  
Funeral Directors  
24 hour service  
Halesowen  
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### lost & found

**LOST**—Dog, (Bitch) Border Terrier, Red, Monday August 24. Chipped. The Knoll, Kingswinford. 07739 667222 / 01384 838067.

**1**  
Family

### elderly & disabled

**MOBILITY SCOOTERS** from £350  
call 01384 838067 for details.  
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**WREKIN STAIRLIFTS** reconditioned lifts from £799. New available. 01952 405397/07897 273617

**2**  
Leisure  
Time

### boats & water sports



**WESTERLY GRIFFON 26FT 1980**  
Volvo Penta 14hp, two mains,  
two genoas, storm gbl, cruising  
chute, ashore Pwlhull,  
£15,500.  
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### caravans / motorhomes

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Over 150 New and Pre Owned Touring  
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CARAVAN DEALER OF THE YEAR.  
For more info call Paul on 07872 671513

**STATIC CARAVAN**  
28 park, two bedrooms. On quiet site in  
Mid Wales in Llanbrynmair. Site fees included for 2015. Dog  
friendly. £3,000.  
Telephone 07922 351352.

**NEW 2015 STATIC CARAVAN**  
£19,995 - Willerby Aurora 35 x 12  
Two Bed, 44hp, Double Glazing,  
Central Heating. Available now on  
over 200 holiday park locations  
across the Heart of England,  
Mid Wales & the Mid Wales Coast.  
Free Buyers Guide. Please call  
0870 3290682

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CARAVAN**  
35ft x 12ft, with large decking,  
on quiet site in Llanbrynmair,  
Mid Wales, with 2 fishing pools,  
no age limit on caravans  
£4,850.  
Telephone 07555 303350.

### sports & leisure

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### holidays

### holiday homes

**LUXURY HOLIDAY HOME** For sale  
on 5\* park. Fishing lake, bar,  
restaurant. Child and pet friendly 20  
acres walking woodland. £19,995  
Inc site fees 01568 708326.

### self catering holidays

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Self Catering Holiday  
Apartments  
Disabled Facilities  
Pet Friendly  
**01278 794111**  
[www.GoSomerset.co.uk](http://www.GoSomerset.co.uk)

### what's on

### antique fairs

**ANTIQUE/COLL FAIR** Kinner  
Centr Centre Sun, 6th Sept. (also  
Bromsgrove every Fri EST 1979,  
Waverley, 0121 550 4123. Next  
Book Fair, Sun 20th Sept.

**3**  
Home &  
Services

### furniture

**MAHOGANY WALL** unit, with lights,  
cost over £1,000, immaculate condition,  
must be seen to appreciate, £200. o.n.o. 0121 557 9144.

### in your garden

**WANTED**. Petrol self propelled  
lawnmower, high powered, cash  
willing. 07930 949337 or 01384 484309.

### items for sale

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Wheelchair £40.  
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**TRAILER 6FT x 4INS x 4FT x 1/2INS**  
tall, drop, protected, rear lights,  
£170. 07580 912994.

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**GARDENS TIDIED** from £5 per  
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**FITTED KITCHEN** Base & Wall units  
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worktops. Fridge, freezer  
cabinet. £100. 01902 885562

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### service

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Digital satelites, Sky installation.

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6  
Property

properties wanted

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overseas property

NOTICE TO READERS Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

7  
Jobs

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Classified Ads

8  
Motoring

cars over £1500

BMW 520 SE Diesel Estate, (56) 90,000 miles, FSH, manual, grey, new MoT, £6,750. 07850 856581.

FORD STREETKA CONVERTIBLE 2003 Convertible 1.6 45,500 Miles, electric windows, air bag, central locking, tax, CD, £1,600 ono 01384 834511

HONDA JAZZ 1.4 EES. 5dr. 2011. Extras include reverse sensors & fog lamps. Very low mileage, ready to drive. 01384 778295.

HYUNDAI SANTA FE 2004 auto, 70,000 miles, full MoT, excellent condition. £2,500 ono. Telephone 01902 834764.

JAGUAR S-TYPE 3.0 V6 SE, 51 reg, 11 months MoT, fish, good looking, £1,000 ono. (Wolverhampton).

KIA PICANTO 1.1 1100, 5dr hatch, 30,000 miles, 10 months MoT. Immaculate condition, £2,855. 07837 901281.

PEUGEOT 206 1.1 5dr, 52 plate, 61,000 miles, blue, alarm, MoT, central locking, CD, good condition £1,300 ono 07593 580659

cars under £1500

MAZDA BONGO 1986, diesel, very good condition, £6,500. Telephone 01384 273819.

MERCEDES SLK 230 2000, 150,000 miles, silver, Private Reg. £2,395. 07779 500658.

MERCEDES G3 PLURIEL, convertible, automatic, 03 plate, MoT, £1,995. 07914 156198.

PEUGEOT 206 automatic 1.4LX, 53 reg, 39,000 miles, FSH, AB, AC, FSH, alarm, alloys, full MoT, immaculate £1,850. 07930 404117.

PEUGEOT 207 2010 reg, 3dr, silver, May 2016 MoT, 11,000 miles, £5,200. 07554 022119.

SEAT IBIZA 1.4, 2008, 63k, black, air con, alarm, excellent condition. MoT 2016, new cambelt, alloys, CD stereo, £2,395. 07788 214350.

SUZUKI GRAND VITARA 5 door, 2 litre, petrol, 110,000 miles, £500. Telephone 01902 741598.

ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED that the Business Advertisers (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

CITROEN G3 PLURIEL, convertible, automatic, 03 plate, MoT, £1,995. 07949 009052.

FORD FOCUS, 02, 1.4LX, full MoT, 2 owners, 000 miles, many new, great car, £600 on sale, £750. 07823 845020.

FORD FIESTA 1.4 diesel, 5dr hatch, 2007, silver, 143k miles, FSH, £30 tax, excellent condition, £1,495. 01562 636131 or 07771 990450.

FORD FOCUS, 02, 1.4LX, full MoT, 2 owners, 000 miles, many new, great car, £600 on sale, £750. 07823 845020.

MAZDA MX5 2001, 1.6, manual, petrol, 101,000 miles, £1,000 ono. 07910 650000.

PEUGEOT 206 1.1 5dr, 52 plate, 61,000 miles, blue, alarm, MoT, central locking, CD, good condition £1,300 ono 07593 580659

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# Classified Ads

**RENAULT CLIO** 1.2 Dynamique, 55 reg, 3dr, 49,000 miles, MoT, PAS, £5500.

**RENAULT CLIO** 1.2 Y Reg., 2001, red, 68,000 miles, 12 months MoT, lady owner, drives superb, £650.

**RENAULT GRANDE SCENIC** 54 reg, 7 seats, silver, MoT Feb, tow bar, 16" alloys, 2 previous owners, £650. 07402 600541.

**RENAULT LAGUNA** 1.6 DCi Est, 2002, full MoT, EW, SR, alloys, DCi change, computer, high mileage hence £450 onto 07737 600541.

**VAUXHALL ASTRA CLUB** 8V 5dr hatch, 1999, silver, 106k, 1.6, MoT Nov, drives superb, condition in 7 out £400. 07939 511813.

**VAUXHALL CORSA** 1.4, twinport, 2004, silver, petrol, 84,000 miles, full MoT, timing chain recently done. £1,495 onto. 07957 183124.



VAUXHALL CORSA

2003, 1,000,000 miles, silver, abs, electric windows, long MoT, stereo, CD. Good runner, reliable, ideal first car, any trial.

£975 ono.

0121 5309186.

**VAUXHALL CORSA ACTIVE** 1.0i 10v, 2004, 00000 miles, black, full MoT, good condition, fully serviced, £995. 07821 622927.

**VW POLO** 1.4 CL, 1999, 5-Dr Hatchback, MoT end of December, £495. 01384 279200.

## MCB

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1000's of parts available at all times  
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All Scrap Cars & Vans Wanted  
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01902 659775 evenings

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0400. Evening 07813 184611  
Oldbury Area.

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Used cars wanted for cash  
Top prices paid. HP settled.  
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07831 245313

CROWN MOTORS guarantees best  
price for your unwanted cars/vans.  
07903 549849, 01902 597035.

## spares & accessories

## mobile mechanics

MOBILE MECHANICS Service &  
repairs. Headgasket, clutches and  
cambelts. 07747 848469.

## tow bars & trailers

TIPPER TRAILER, 5ft x 3ft,  
galvanised, £550.  
Telephone 07384 273819.

## tyres / wheels / exhausts

A SET of winter wheels for 1 series  
116 diesel. Sport 5dr BMW, very  
little use, cost £800 new, sell £200.  
07557 153770.

FOUR 20INS SRT wheels and tyres  
for Chrysler 300, as new, £400.  
Telephone 07384 724194.

## 9 Local Information

## public & legal notices

### LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES

For convenience you  
may fax any advertising  
requirements to  
Marie Hogg on  
01902 713146  
or email marie.hogg@  
expressandstar.co.uk  
(remember to include a  
name/contact number for  
confirmation of receipt)

## 10 Personals

## sports clubs

### WOLVERHAMPTON ADULT SUNDAY LEAGUE DIVISION 3

Morning Football Team  
require  
GOALKEEPER  
Contact Paul  
07967 200492

## personal

### A BRITISH BORN INDIAN MAN

Wishes to meet women for  
dating and spending time  
together.

GENUINE replies.

Box Number P20024,  
Express and Star,  
Queen Street,  
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

## CLASSY LADY 60'S

Requires Female Friends for  
chats, outings, occasional fun  
nights out. Interests crafts,  
Reiki, Photography,  
Wolverhampton and  
surrounding area.

Genuine replies only.

Box Number P20025,  
Express and Star,  
Queen Street,  
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

## 5 ★★★★★

## GENTLEMAN

Would like to meet another  
Gent for friendship, holidays,  
fun and outings.

Box Number P20026 ,

Express and Star,  
Queen Street,  
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

## 5 ★★★★★

LADY 60'S  
Young outlook, animal lover,  
would like to meet new Friends.

All letters answered.  
Box Number P20023 ,

Express and Star,  
Queen Street,  
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

## 5 ★★★★★

HAVE YOU CHECKED your adverti-  
sement today? We would respect-  
fully remind advertisers that it is  
their responsibility to inform the  
publishers of any mistakes or inac-  
curacies on the first day of publica-  
tion.

## ADVERTISEMENTS

### CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE

1. **Midland News Association Limited** All publications in this group are published by the Midland News Association Limited, registered office Queen Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES (the "Company") and this is the address to which any notices should be sent.

2. **Acceptance** The Company will only accept advertising on these standard terms and no other contract terms or conditions will apply other than those which are implied by statute and cannot lawfully be excluded. In particular the Company will not accept advertising on the basis of advertiser's terms and conditions.

3. **Content of Advertisements** All advertisements must be legal decent honest and truthful. Advertisements must comply with the British Code of Advertising Practice and all other codes under the general supervision of the Advertising Standards Authority. Advertisements must comply with the requirements of all current legislation including but not limited to the following: - All advertisements must be honest and not misleading between trade and private advertising as required by the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order 1977. Advertisements offering credit or hire purchases must comply with the Consumer Credit (Advertisement Regulations) 1980.

All descriptions of goods must be accurate and in no way infringe the provisions of the Trades Descriptions Act 1968.

Advertisements must not contain any material which is defamatory. You must have permission to use any material contained in your advertisement and must not infringe the copyright moral rights or any other right of any third party. The Company reserves the right to refuse to carry any advertisement or to require amendment of any advertisement in its absolute discretion.

4. **Appearance of Advertisements** Whilst the Company makes every effort to comply with requests, publication of a particular date or in a particular position cannot be guaranteed. The Company reserves the right to alter, suspend, cancel or reject an advertisement at its discretion even after the same has been accepted for publication. The Company reserves the right to charge a cancellation fee for any advertisement which does not appear. If only a part of a series of advertisements appears you will only be charged for the advertisements in the series which actually appear. The Company does not guarantee the publication or extent of supporting editorial and your obligation to pay for advertising will not under any circumstances be dependent upon the appearance or content of editorial. No liability will be accepted for non-appearance of editorial. The Company does not guarantee that advertising will not appear for similar or the same subject matter to your advertisement and no liability shall be accepted as a result of such advertising appearing. It is the advertiser's responsibility to provide any amended copy, whether by electronic or other format, and the Company does not guarantee that it will be able to or will agree to modify, amend or alter any file or copy supplied to it.

5. **Liability** The Company's liability for any loss or damage caused by any error or omission in the advertisement or any other breach of contract, however arising, in any circumstances, except a full refund of any paid for the advertisement to the Company for publication of the advertisement or the cost of a further or corrective advertisement of the same type as that which originally appeared. Where a series of advertisements is booked the Company's liability shall not in any circumstances exceed the value of the first advertisement in the series. In the event of any error, misprint or omission in the publication of the advertisement the Company will either re-publish the advertisement or the relevant parts of the advertisement or make a reasonable refund of or adjustment to the cost of the advertisement. If the error does not materially detract from the advertisement then no re-publication, refund or adjustment will be made. It is the advertiser's responsibility to check the content of advertisements and the Company will not accept any liability for loss or damage, or obligation to republish or make a refund or adjustment, arising from re-publication of an advertisement containing an error, misprint or omission which has not been identified by the advertiser after first publication.

6. **Box numbers** The Company accepts no liability for loss or damage caused by delay in forwarding or omission to forward to the advertiser replies to Box Numbers. Box Numbers must not be used for sending goods, distributing circulars or communications from agents. The Company reserves the right to open and inspect all replies to Box Number and to destroy goods, circulars or communications from agents which are discovered during an inspection.

7. **Inspection** The Company shall be entitled at any time to inspect any goods or services advertised and may decline to carry further advertising if such inspection is not permitted or if the Company's opinion of the provision of further advertising facilities is not appropriate in view of the nature or quality of the goods or services.

8. **Indemnity** The advertiser, including any advertising agency involved in placing any advertisement, warrants that it has permission to use for publication by electronic or other means material which has not been included in the advertisement. The advertiser and advertising agency involved in placing the advertisement agree to indemnify the Company in respect of all charges, costs, claims or damage arising out of the publication of the advertisement, whether the same result from actual or threatened legal action or from some other cause.

9. **Cancellation** On a request for cancellation or amendment of a classified advertisement being accepted, you will be given a cancellation or amendment number which must be quoted in all subsequent correspondence. Payment of the originally agreed price will be required in full for any advertisement in relation to which the advertiser is unable to supply a valid cancellation or amendment number. Cancellation can only be accepted if the Company is notified of the cancellation by no later than the following deadlines:-

Lineage, Sunday - By no later than 6.30pm on the working day prior to publication. Advertisements to appear on Monday must be cancelled by 10am on the preceding Saturday.

Classified, 10 days later than 24 hours before the date of publication.

To cancel Lineage, Semip Display and Classified Display advertisements please telephone 01902 317978. To cancel Colour/Features advertisements please speak to the Representative through whom the advertisement was booked.

10. **Rates** Advertising rates are as laid out in the Company's current rate card which is available on request from the Company's office. The rates may be varied from time to time in the Company's absolute discretion and without prior notification of the intended variation. The revised rate will be charged for any advertising ordered after the date of variation.

All gross advertising rates except classified lineage and semi-display are subject to a 0.1% Advertising Standards Board of Finance levy payable by advertisers to help finance the self-regulatory system administered by the Advertising Standards Authority.

11. **Payment** The Company reserves the right to require pre-payment as a condition of any advertisement being published. Where pre-payment is not required unless otherwise agreed, payment must be made within 14 days of the date of issue of the Company's invoice. An additional 2.00 booking charge will be payable if the invoice is not paid in full within this 14 day period.

Any additional credit facilities which are offered are at the Company's absolute discretion. The advertiser's liability shall be for the full amount of all advertising ordered and shall not be limited to the amount of any credit limit which the Company may impose.

Payment may be made by [method] cash, cheque or credit/debit card. The advertiser's obligation to pay for other items on an account shall not be affected by the existence of any query over individual item within that account.

12. **Data Protection Act** The advertiser's details will be retained by the Company for the purpose of administering our accounts records and so that the Company may be able to contact the advertiser for future advertising opportunities which may be of interest to you. By placing advertising with the Company the advertiser agrees to your details being used for this purpose.

13. **Applicable Law** These conditions of acceptance shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the law of England and Wales.



## Making Friends



Dates in YOUR region



YOUR local dating service run by the dating experts since 1990 ... REAL people REAL ads

## How to use your dating service

To place your own advert call:

**0844 887 2293**

and follow the simple instructions

To Place your ad by text

Simply text **REG** followed by your first name, date of birth, area and your advert (max 155 characters) and send to **80098 FREE**

(Standard Network rates apply)

Reply to members call:

**0906 500 3955**

calls cost £1.55 per minute plus network charges

Before you dial! Have the adverts 6-digit box number written down and key-in promptly when asked. Don't forget to leave contact details for replies.

Or **Text... REPLY26** (leave space) box number (leave space) and then enter your message & send to

**80098** eg: **REPLY26 123456 hi get in touch...** then send to **80098**

Successfully forwarded messages cost £1.50 per message (Max 160 characters). You must exchange 7 messages each before you can swap contact details. Messages may be moderated for your safety and security.

## Date ONLINE

YOU can now date online or via your mobile. Simply **VISIT** us at:

<http://dating.expressandstar.com>

Been left a message?

Pickup your replies on:

**0906 500 3955**

calls cost £1.55 per minute plus network charges

PLUS you can also listen to other members greetings on this number.

## CUSTOMER SUPPORT

Call 0207 720 7130 Monday - Friday 10am - 4pm or email us at support@jmediauk.co.uk

PHIL genuine male, 57, OHAC, looking for female, any race, status and age for no strings

discreet fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418845

GUY 57, 5'11 looking for same-minded soul. Text only to Mailbox No: 449512

LYNN 49, young looking, seeks black female, 21-30 for loving relationship and fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414663

ADVENTUROUS 35yr old, slim, dark hair, creative, likes music, cycling, photography, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412355

WENDY, 40, slim, fit, bubbly female looking to meet a tall, slim, fit, mature male who thinks he can keep up. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414773

WENDY, 40, slim, fit, bubbly female looking to meet a tall, slim, fit, mature male who thinks he can keep up. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414836

SINGLE mom, 40yrs, small, not skinny WLMT single dad aged 33 to 45. Text only to Mailbox No: 429529

LADY, 49, young at heart, nice eyes, seeks man, 42-52 with good sense of humour, animal lover with loads of love and security to give to the right person. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418817

VIRGINIA, outgoing social female, 24, tall slim and attractive, looking for fun times, maybe more. Can accommodate/travel. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418845

DISCREET man wanted by married lady for no strings fun. I'm called Sarah and am 37yrs. Pls call, ACA Tel: 0906 515 4299 Box 418167

LOOKING for the right chemistry with country loving gent who like me is looking for some extra fun in their life. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418483

GRAHAM, 50s, 5'10", tall, blue eyes, very smart, car and home owner, solvent, smoky, WLMT a very feminine vivacious lady, 36-60 for romantic evenings out and holidays. Staffordshire, South Cheshire, all calls answered. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418815

ANNA, busty mature lady seeks no strings discreet meetings with male any age or location. Tel No: 0906 515 4295 Box 366019

LYN, 43, divorced very lonely single mum, young looking, slim, attractive, WLMT similar male for companionship. Age/looks/Status: uninimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413945

TALL dark, attractive white male, 57, seeks attractive Asian/Asian female for discreet, in/out and loads of cuddles. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418785

MAUREEN, discreet sensual lady, 42yrs seeks daytime fun at her home. ACA. Tel: 0906 515 4275 Box 404295

SLIM attractive man, 52, caring, GSOH, WLMT lady for friendship. Please reply and claim my last RoRo. Text only to Mailbox No: 417208

PHILLIP, retired bank manager, 62yrs, seeks young attractive lady, single mums welcome. Text only to Mailbox No: 412377

STEVE young 40, looking for uncomplicated adult fun with any age race female. ACA. Tel No: 4880449

GENUINE 56yr old male, divorced, OHAC, looking for nice lady for friendship, maybe more. Wolverhampton. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405551

MARK 41, own business, professional, likes to enjoy life, clubs, pubs, cinema, gym, seeks similar female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 360283

MARY 40, 5'9ins, brown hair/eyes, attractive, good looking, OHAC/business, likes walks, day trips, cinema, seeks similar female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418603

GUY 57, 5'11 looking for same-minded soul. Text only to Mailbox No: 449512

LYNN 49, young looking, seeks black female, 21-30 for loving relationship and fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414663

DARREN, 44, slim build, dark brown hair, green eyes, seeks genuine female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416603

PHIL 55, divorced, 5ft 10ins, slim, OHAC, seeks female, 18 plus for discreet adult fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 401875

MARY 40, 5'9ins, brown hair/eyes, attractive, good looking, OHAC/business, likes walks, day trips, cinema, seeks similar female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 360283

MARY 41, own business, professional, likes to enjoy life, clubs, pubs, cinema, gym, seeks similar female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 360283

MARK 41, own business, professional, likes to enjoy life, clubs, pubs, cinema, gym, seeks similar female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 360283

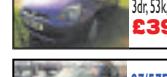
MARK 41, own business, professional, likes to enjoy life, clubs, pubs, cinema, gym, seeks similar female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 360283

MARK 41, own business, professional, likes to enjoy life, clubs, pubs, cinema, gym, seeks similar female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 360283

MARK 41, own business, professional, likes to enjoy life, clubs, pubs, cinema, gym, seeks similar female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 360283

MARK 41, own business, professional, likes to enjoy life, clubs, pubs, cinema, gym, seeks similar female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 360283

MARK 41, own business, professional, likes to enjoy life, clubs, pubs, cinema, gym, seeks similar female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 360283

	09/09 Vauxhall Insignia 2.0 Elite Turbo Estate Automatic 55k, Sage Metallic, Alloys, Cream Leather, Climate Control, E/Windows <b>£7695 / £39 Per Week</b>		09/09 Ford KA 1.2 Style 3dr, 39k, Blue metallic, CD player, E/Windows <b>£4495 / £22 Per Week</b>
	07/07 Volvo V50 2.5 SE Lux D5 Estate Automatic 67k, Blue Metallic, Alloys, Grey Leather, Climate Control, E/Windows <b>£6995 / £36 Per Week</b>		09/09 Fiat Panda 1.1 Active ECO 5dr, ONLY 130 ROAD TAX*, ONLY 17k miles, White, CD Player, Electric Windows <b>£3995 / £19 Per Week</b>
	09/09 Ford Fiesta 1.25 Zetec 3dr, ONLY 26k MILES, Red Metallic, Alloys, Air con, CD, Heated ft screen <b>£6495 / £34 Per Week</b>		10/10 Chevrolet Spark 1.0 Plus 43k, Silver, Air Con, CD, E/Windows <b>£3995 / £19 Per Week</b>
	08/18 Volkswagen Golf 1.9 TDi Match Diesel 5dr, 72k, Red, Alloys, Air Con, CD, E/Windows <b>£6495 / £34 Per Week</b>		08/09 Ford Focus 1.6 Style 5dr, ONE OWNER, 55k, Red, Air Conditioning, CD Player, Electric Windows <b>£3995 / £19 Per Week</b>
	07/17 Mini Cooper 1.6 With JCW Body Styling 72k, Red/Black, Alloys, Red Leather Trim, Air Con, E/Windows, Fog Lights <b>£5995 / £30 Per Week</b>		07/17 Ford Fiesta 1.4 Ghia 3dr, 53k, Violet, Alloys, Full Leather, Air Con, Heated Screen, CD <b>£3995 / £19 Per Week</b>
	09/19 Ford Focus 1.6 Style 5dr, 33k, Grey Metallic, Alloys, Air con, CD, E/Windows <b>£5695 / £27 Per Week</b>		07/17 Ford Fusion 1.4 Style Climate 51k, Blue, LOW INSURANCE*, Air Con, CD, Climate Pack <b>£3995 / £19 Per Week</b>
	07/07 Citroen C4 Grand Picasso 1.6 HDi VTR Plus Diesel Automatic 7 Seater, 64k, Beige, Alloys, CD, E/Windows <b>£4995 / £24 Per Week</b>		07/16 Vauxhall Tigra 1.4 16V Exclusiv 2dr Convertible, 47k Miles, Silver, Alloys, Full Leather, Air Con, CD, E/Windows <b>£3795 / £18 Per Week</b>
	06/06 Suzuki Grand Vitara 1.6 VVT + 3dr 4WD, ONE OWNER*, 56k miles, Silver, Alloys, Air Con, CD, E/Windows <b>£4995 / £24 Per Week</b>		08/17 Ford KA 1.3 Luxury ONLY 12k Miles, Blue, Full Leather, Alloys, Air Con, CD, E/Windows <b>£3495 / £18 Per Week</b>
	01/11 Landrover Discovery TD5 GS Diesel Automatic 7 seater, 89k, Green, Alloys, E/Windows, Twin Sunroof <b>£4995 / £41 Per Week</b>		07/07 Kia Picanto 1.0 Zipp 5dr, 44k, Red, E/Sunroof, CD, E/Windows <b>£2695 / £16 Per Week</b>

Finance example: 07/17 Ford Fiesta 1.4 Ghia 3dr. Cash Price £3995. Deposit £300. Amount of credit £3695. Fixed interest rate 6.25% Flat rate, 11.8% APR, 60 Payments of £80.83 (£18.66 per week) Total amount payable £5149.80 (Excludes £150 Document fee and £150 Completion fee, Subject to status)

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www.halesowenautos.co.uk



## Bangers selling like hot cakes

Sales of 'banger' cars are rising fast, while prices are even increasing for cars aged 10.5 years old and over.

Even though there are now more bangers coming on to the market, the average price paid at auction for this type of car at auction has risen from £725 in 2013 to £875 in June 2015.

The availability of cheap PCP (personal contract plan) deals for new cars has encouraged many drivers to give up their bangers.

However, even with more bangers coming on to the market, there has been a substantial rise in demand that

means there are more buyers than cars available, so prices have firmed up.

Rupert Pontin, head of valuations at Glass's, said: "We are seeing something interesting going on.

"Since the start of 2013, the number of cars over 10.5 years old being sold at auction has increased by around 50 per cent.

"We believe this is because large numbers of buyers are selling their bangers and signing up to low-cost new and used car PCP deals to get behind the wheel of a newer model.

"However, instead of this flood of bangers entering the market leading to a collapse in values, they have actually increased quite substantially. Enough

new buyers are entering the market to soak up the extra volume and the banger market is actually in excellent health."

Pontin added: "Partially this is as a result of improving economic conditions as more people are feeling confident about buying and running a car at the entry level. However, the quality of older cars on sale is improving all the time, which helps."

"We see many bangers going through auction in excellent condition at very reasonable prices and, for many people, they make extremely sensible purchases."

"It is very much a case of: 'The banger is dead. Long live the banger'."

# The Famous Five SAVE UP TO £4205 ON NU 65 REG VAUXHALLS

New Vauxhall Models



### 1 New Vauxhall Corsa Sting

Specification includes:

- Bluetooth® connectivity • 16" white alloys
- Twin white stripes on bonnet, roof and tailgate
- CD/MP3 CD player/stereo radio and aux-in socket • Cruise control

OUR PRICE  
ONLY

**£8495**



### 2 New Vauxhall Meriva Techline 1.4

Specification includes:

- Electrically heated front seats
- Front fog lights • 17-inch alloy wheels
- Mobile phone system with Bluetooth®\*
- Full body-colour door mirrors

LIST PRICE £13995

**SAVE £2000  
£11995**



### 3 New Vauxhall Astra GTC 1.4 Sport

Specification includes:

- Daytime running lights • 18" seven-spoke alloys
- CD 400 CD / MP3 CD player with stereo radio
- DAB digital radio
- Cruise control • Air conditioning
- USB connection with iPod control

LIST PRICE £19355

**SAVE £3360  
£15995**

PRICES EXCLUDE RFL



### 4 New Vauxhall Mokka Techline 1.6

Specification includes:

- Air conditioning • Navi 950 satellite navigation system with CD, MP3 CD player and stereo radio
- Bluetooth® functionality • Dual-zone Climate Control
- USB connection with iPod control

OUR PRICE  
ONLY

**£14995**



### 5 New Vauxhall Antara Diamond 2.2Cdti

Specification includes:

- ABS • Descent control system (DCS)
- Traction control (TC) • Hill start assist (HSA)
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- Bluetooth® connectivity • 17-inch alloy wheels

LIST PRICE £22200

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Halesowen Motor House

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**0121 503 0001** [www.halesowenmotorhouse.co.uk](http://www.halesowenmotorhouse.co.uk)

T Wall Garages

High Street, Pensnett, Kingswinford DY6 8XB  
**01384 288333** [www.twall.co.uk](http://www.twall.co.uk)

Stourbridge Motor House

High Street, Amblecote, Nr. Stourbridge DY8 4DG  
**01384 447970** [www.stourbridgemotorhouse.co.uk](http://www.stourbridgemotorhouse.co.uk)

Dudley Motor Company

Trindle Rd, Dudley, West Midlands DY2 7AY  
**01384 454100** [www.dudleymotorco.co.uk](http://www.dudleymotorco.co.uk)



# Wagon that sets the pace

By Sharon Walters

It's a little disappointing when a car you've booked for a media test is delayed. But these things happen and so it did with my booking of the all road estate the SEAT Leon X-PERIENCE which had been bumped by the previous journo driving it.

However the very helpful press office sent me a replacement to 'fill the gap' another Leon ST wagon – but a very different car indeed under the bonnet!

It was the Leon ST Cupra – indeed a car that combines the space of a wagon (like the X-PERIENCE) but with simply superb pace. It's the fastest car SEAT has ever made. You can get hot estates that hold more behind but you simply won't get a more thrilling drive.



That's all down to the 280bhp in the 2.0 litre engine which can propel you from 0-62mph in just 6.1 seconds and can (on German autobahns where it's legal) reach 155mph.

OK economy may not be staggering – you can get just over 42 mpg in a combined cycle – and CO2 emissions may not please environmentalists at 157 g/km but what the heck when you can get a family load lugger that makes you positively beam when out on the road. You can't say that about many estates.

So just what do you get? For a start there's 587 litres of luggage space that expands to a massive (for this car anyway) 1,470 with the rear seats down.

The finish is smart, refined and classy with good quality finish and well laid out. There's Alcantara trim on the supportive sports seats, piano-style black gloss on the dashboard and contrasting leather strips to the doors. And it all feels very well built.

Impressive practicality with 587-litre boot, rising to 1,410 litres with seats folded using Easy Rear Seat-back Release Mechanism, plus chrome loading sill and double boot floor design.

There's generous standard equipment including: air conditioning, remote central locking, SEAT Easy Connect five-inch touch-screen media system, including Bluetooth phone preparation and media streaming, SD card slot, AUX-in and USB ports and steering wheel controls. On the safety front the list includes multi-collision brake, lane assist and tiredness recognition.

And now we come to the all-important drive. Apart from the fact it is extremely quick, it is also very responsive. My commute into work on winding B roads was pure



.....  
**'My commute into work on winding B roads was pure pleasure, something that's not always the case mainly due to the condition of the surfaces.'**  
.....

pleasure, something that's not always the case mainly due to the condition of the surfaces. But the chassis in the Cupra is excellent and absorbed most of the jarring usually caused by the numerous potholes along the way. It is also a a comfortable cruiser along the motorways.

On top of all that it is a handsome looking car attracting admiring looks and also approved by my much-loved dog who lets me know in no uncertain way if he doesn't like the ride by the indignant looks as he imperiously exits a vehicle.

I had the six-speed manual version which costs £29,205. Added to that was an upgraded navigation system for £680 and was worth every penny, while the £505 extra of the orange line finish which included orange alloy wheels, door mirrors, tailgate lettering, front grille surround were, to me, just a little bit tacky.

A leather pack which included leather bolsters and winter treats such as heated front seats and headlight washer system added a further £1,055.

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By John Griffiths

It may well go down in history as one of those magic 'eureka' moments when some bright spark in the West Midlands decided to cross a rough, tough agricultural workhorse with a flagship luxury car.

The result, 45 years ago in June, was the launch of the Range Rover which has proved a huge success for British business, and one of the world's most desirable cars – outselling the limousine flagships of many of its competitors, let alone rival SUVs.

Strong sales at home here in the UK, in America and Europe have now been overtaken by sales in China. Yes, it's expensive to buy and run but that's undoubtedly part of its appeal in the dizzy heights of the luxury car market.

When you get behind the wheel of a Range Rover, it doesn't say you're going somewhere. It says you've arrived.

Yet the company is also conscious of its critics which is why the 2015 version of the V6 diesel is cleaner and more efficient than ever, capable of better than 40mpg and cutting CO2 emissions by 8.5 per cent. That's pretty impressive for an engine capable of hauling more than two tonnes of car from a standstill to 60mph in a mere 7.4 seconds.

The changes, including a new turbocharging system, are part of a raft of mechanical and technological upgrades for the latest Range Rovers, continuing a history of innovation which has left rivals struggling to keep pace.

The test car was the £81,850, 3.0 litre TDV6 in popular Vogue SE specification. While it's officially the lowest powered Range Rover, it still has 285PS of power and a whopping 600Nm of torque – more than enough for tackling rough terrain or towing, let alone hustling along the motorway.

While the re-engineered V6 is more frugal at the pumps, its lower, 182g/km CO2 rating cuts tax bills, too.

Linked to an impressively rapid and smooth eight-speed automatic gearbox, progress can only be described as refined, particularly during motorway cruising where you're truly isolated from the outside elements.

There are few, if any cars which provide such a supple, cosseting ride. It's like floating on air – which of course you are, since the Range Rover has an automatic air suspension system designed to beat the vagaries of the road.

The added benefit is that it also compensates for cornering forces, and excessive dive under braking, so reducing the 'rock and roll' ride of more conventionally sprung SUVs.

### Effortless

You'll always be aware, particularly on twisty B-roads, that you're driving a big vehicle but despite that the Range Rover is almost surprisingly nimble. Driving, and parking, are effortless.

Another innovation in this 2015 model is the Land Rover-developed All-Terrain Progress Control, which allows you to set a low crawl speed over rough ground and obstacles for maximum traction, while allowing the driver to give his full attention to steering.

A £175 option, it complements the existing terrain response system. You simply punch one of the buttons such as 'snow and ice' or 'mud and ruts' and the engine, transmission, four wheel drive system, suspension and all the electronic aids are set for optimum traction and control for the circumstances.

It is the latest in a long line of technical innovations which has kept the Range Rover ahead of the pack: it was the first SUV to have ABS as standard, the first with traction control and the first with automatic air suspension.

While the vehicle is principally bought as a luxury vehicle, it's part of the Land Rover creed that it has to be the best off-road too – even if the great majority of owners rarely if ever venture off hard surfaces.

The list of equipment is too long to list, but some of the highlights include a 'surround sound' audio, adaptive cruise control, parking sensors and camera, navigation system and electrically operated just about everything.

The test car was also fitted with a new to Range Rover head-up display, whereby selected information is projected onto a screen above the dash and closer to your eyeline. Derived from jet fighter technology, it allows you to see crucial information such as navigation prompts – and more crucially speed – without taking your eyes off the road ahead.

The latest power option is the V6 diesel combined with an electric motor. It's quicker and around 10 per cent more economical than even the V6 diesel, but the cost of showing off your green credentials is £110,150, only slightly offset by fuel savings and lower tax liability of a 169g/km CO2 rating.

The current, fourth generation Range Rover first appeared in 2012 but the improvements to this 2015 test car shows Land Rover is not a company that rests on its laurels.

Having known the company for quite a number of years, it seems to attract (or perhaps make) individuals who don't just want to build a good car: they're constantly striving to be the best. That perhaps is the secret of its success.

## Stour's bid to stay up hindered by low score

Stourbridge 82 a/o (35 overs)  
lost to Eastnor 83-4 (14 overs) by six wickets

STOURBRIDGE'S elation at beating Tamworth a week ago was short-lived after losing to Eastnor on Saturday.

Eastnor, who claimed 20 points for the victory, are at the bottom of Division Two of the Birmingham and District league.

On Bank Holiday Monday all Division Two matches were abandoned, leaving Eastnor, Stourbridge and Brewood in a tight cluster. Six points separate Eastnor and Stour and there are four points between Stour and Brewood. Two bottom teams will go down to Division Three.

Saturday's game at the Memorial Ground was a disaster for Stourbridge. Batting first the home side collapsed to 82 all out in just 35 overs. Skipper Matt Bradley top scored with 18 off 54 balls. He was given out controversially leaving a delivery from Atiq Ur Rehman. At that stage Stour were six down for 50 destroying any hopes of points for safety from relegation.

A ninth wicket partnership of 26 between brothers Jitesh and Mikes Patel was also cut short by a dubious umpire's decision. Opening bowler Raheel Lone took 4-25 off 10 overs.

Stour did make an early breakthrough taking the wicket of Joseph Madyembwa run out for 13. With the score on 43 Nabeel Ali had the other opener Clive Chadhani brilliantly caught in the slips for 16 in the eighth over. Stour grabbed two more wickets but by that time Eastnor had made 77 in just 13 overs.

## Villa will go all out to beat rivals Blues

VILLA boss Tim Sherwood has vowed his players will give their all in the Second City derby against bitter rivals Blues.

The televised game on Tuesday September 22, will pit the fierce foes together for the first time since Blues were relegated from the Premier League in 2011.

And Sherwood is looking forward to tasting the Second City derby atmosphere as boss.

He said: "I have never been involved in that game. Obviously I know how important it is.

"If the fans stick with us like they did on Tuesday, we will give them something to shout about. We owe it to them."

"We will give them a performance," warned Sherwood. "We won't leave anything on the field."

# Coach proud of swimmer Finch



Chloe Finch, left, and Brittany Horton

SWIMMING sensation Chloe Finch is in high spirits after achieving success on the world stage.

The 17-year-old from Rowley Regis finished eighth in the 400m freestyle final at the World Junior Swimming Championships in Singapore last week.

Although she came last in the final, Finch did extremely well to qualify with a time of 4.14.17 after only managing 15th in the 800m freestyle heats.

She started in lane seven, with fellow Briton Holly Hibbott beside her in lane six, but it was Australian Tamsin Cook who took the crown – setting a new championship record in the process.

Gold medallist Cook was joined on the podium by American Sierra Schmidt who won silver and Italian Linda Caponi with bronze. Carl Grosvenor, who

coaches Finch at Birmingham Swimming, said he was proud of her performance in a final where she competed against hugely talented swimmers.

Finch was also looking to replicate her 400m success in the 200m freestyle heat last Sunday – the final day of the World Junior Swimming Championships. Canada's Taylor Ruck – who also won the 100m event – was the winner.

Meanwhile Brittany Horton, from Brierley Hill, is preparing for the Commonwealth Youth Games in Samoa.

The 16-year-old arrived with the rest of Team England at a training camp in Auckland, New Zealand ahead of the start of the competition on Saturday (September 5).

# Unconvincing Albion gifted three points

Stoke City 0 Albion 1  
TONY Pulis was always guaranteed a warm reception on his return to the Britannia Stadium.

But not in his wildest dreams could the Albion head coach have guessed his former club would be quite so charitable.

Two moments of first-half madness, first from Ibrahim Afellay and then Charlie Adam, saw Stoke reduced to nine men and the Baggies as good as handed the game on a plate.

Even then, it was a gift they appeared almost reluctant to accept.

In the end, Salomon Rondon's first goal for the club was enough to secure a first league win of the season on another day when Pulis' men failed to fully convince.

One big positive was the performance of Rondon, who took his goal with real skill and kept the Stoke backline honest for much of the game. The £12million striker still has plenty of room for improvement, but the initial signs are he could well prove worth the hefty transfer fee.

### Dropping

There was also a quietly impressive performance from the club's other summer signing on the forward line, Rickie Lambert, who provided the cross for Rondon's goal after being introduced 10 minutes before the break. Frequently dropping deep to take up possession, he displayed a defter side to his game.

On Saturday his wingers, James McClean and Callum McManaman, performed solidly enough but were too often let down by their final ball.

Disciplined as Stoke were at the back, Albion didn't have the necessary nous to drive home their advantage and home keeper Jack Butland was largely untested during the second half despite the visitors enjoying a two-man advantage.

The initial team selection gave the impression Pulis would be happy with a point but he was quick to try to ram home the advantage so soon after the hosts had been reduced to nine.

Ultimately, it proved enough. But there will be few other days when Albion are able to count on such indiscipline from an opponent or favourable refereeing calls, with Craig Gardner perhaps fortunate not to follow Afellay for his part in their skirmish. For now, the result is enough but the performances will soon have to follow.



Record £12m signing Salomon Rondon heads in his first Albion goal to give his side a 1-0 victory at Stoke

## Boss left hamstrung as spoils shared

### Aston Villa 2 Sunderland 2

A MOMENT of frustration left Tim Sherwood with a hamstring injury – but the Aston Villa boss was delighted with his team's performance despite having to settle for a draw against Sunderland.

Sherwood went to kick a cluster of water bottles when Villa were denied a penalty late in the Barclays Premier League game.

And then to add insult to injury, literally in Sherwood's case, referee Robert Madley booked substitute Carles Gil for simulation.

Sherwood explained: "I said in the week (after the Notts County game) that I pulled a hamstring just watching it, well I actually think I have this time."

"I was going to give them a boot but they would have gone towards the crowd so I thought I'd backheel them instead."

"I wish I hadn't. I must have looked like a spoilt brat. I tell my kids off for behaving like that."

The game itself was dominated by Villa for large

parts but they could not find a winning goal their endeavour deserved.

Yann M'Vila's superb free-kick put Sunderland ahead early on but a Scott Sinclair double before half-time, the first from the penalty spot, turned the match on its head.

However, Sunderland equalised at the start of the second half through Jeremain Lens, although they were indebted to goalkeeper Costel Pantilimon for a handful of saves, most notably to deny Ashley Westwood, as they escaped with a 2-2 draw.

Sherwood added: "I'm disappointed not to take all three points but there were some excellent performances out there from my players."

"I'm pleased with how we played, we created chances from all areas of the field and should have had a penalty."

"It was one-way traffic for long spells. The only thing missing is the fine margins, the finishing touch. We should have been out of sight."

## Important victory as Brummies edge home

Brummies 46 Eastbourne 43  
BIRMINGHAM pulled off a last heat 5-1 to edge a thriller against Eastbourne on Wednesday night.

On a dramatic and tense evening at Perry Barr, Adam Ellis and Zach Wajtknecht were the heat 15 heroes to secure a massively important National League victory.

The Surestop Brummies took the lead for the first time in heat five when Wajtknecht and Sam Chapman capitalised on the disqualification of Eastbourne's No.1 Bradley Wilson-Dean by securing the first maximum race advantage.

Ellis was coasting to victory in heat six before a rare mistake saw him slide off and gift the visitors a 5-1 to pull the scores level again.

Two further advantages for Eastbourne saw them pull three-points clear but another Wajtknecht and Chapman 5-1 put the Perry Barr outfit back in front.

In a hard fought encounter, the Brummies found themselves trailing by a single-point going into the last race, needing a heat advantage to pick up the win.

Ellis made the gate before Wajtknecht pulled off a great move to sneak up the inside of Wilson-Dean to secure a paid maximum for himself as well as an important victory.

Team manager Graham Drury said: "That win means so much to everyone at Birmingham Speedway and means that we can wrap up the title if we go to Mildenhall on Sunday and come away with at least a draw."

BIRMINGHAM 46, Zach Wajtknecht 14+, Adam Ellis 11, Tom Perry 9+1, Sam Chapman 6+, Jack Smith 3, Tyler Goyer 2, Adam Kirby 1. EASTBOURNE 43, Daniel Smith 10+2, Marc O'Farrell 1, Ben Wood 9+1, Bradley Wilson-Dean 8, Richard Andrews 5+1, Kelsey Dugard 4+1, Georgie Wood R/R.

## Tivi set up FA Cup tie with the Glassboys

### Market Drayton 3 Tividale 0

TIVIDALE suffered a miserable Bank Holiday Monday as Market Drayton picked up their first Evo-Stik First Division South points of the season with a 3-0 win.

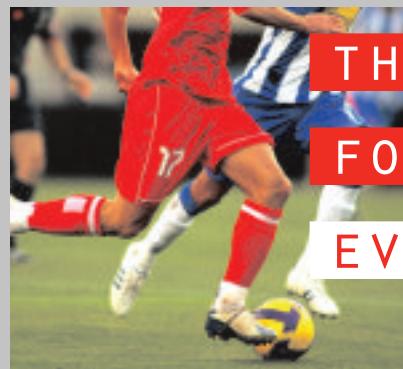
They had to dig deep to withstand a dangerous start by Tividale, inspired by an outrageous second minute effort from winger Ashley Jackson that looped over keeper Ash Rawlings and hit the woodwork.

But the opening goal, a classy near-post chip shot by Simon Everall from Michael O'Reilly's hard low 35th minute corner, was no surprise.

Second half goals followed from Scott Ryan and James O'Reilly.

Tividale's FA Cup adventure will continue, however, as they edged out Hanley Town to set up a home tie against rivals Stourbridge. Chris Sterling scored the only goal.

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Evans ready to make a big impact

NEW boy Jonny Evans has vowed to make a "big impact" after signing a four-year deal at Albion.

The 27-year-old central defender moved from Manchester United for a fee thought to be in the region of £6million, potentially rising to £8million with add-ons.

Evans came through the youth ranks at Old Trafford and made 198 appearances for the club, winning three Premier League titles.

But the Northern Ireland international has not featured this season and thinks the time was right for a fresh start.

"I think there comes a time when it is the right time for a new challenge and mine has come now," he said.

"I think I am at a good age where I can go somewhere and make an impact."

Albion boss Tony Pulis revealed he had spoken to former United boss Sir Alex Ferguson regarding Evans, while Baggies skipper Darren Fletcher, a former team-mate at Old Trafford, reckons the club have signed another leader for the dressing room.

"He is a fantastic player and he is a great leader," said Fletcher. "He is a top player."

"He has been at Manchester United for a long time."

New striker Salomon Rondon told of his joy with his first Albion goal as the Baggies overcame nine-man Stoke.

"It was a big goal because it gave us the victory and our first three points of the season," Rondon said.

"Stoke are a difficult team so to beat them is pleasing. I am settling in well. The Premier League is very tough so I know I have to work hard."

**Heathens boss is still confident of winning trophies**

CRADLEY boss Will Pottinger is urging his side to end the season in style with hopes still high for a trophy or two.

Heathens saw their hopes of a third successive league title dashed with defeat at Rye House. But they are still in the semi-finals of both the Gold Cup and Knockout Cup.

Pottinger said: "It's been a tough season for us, but we are still looking to end the season with some silverware."

"We've still got plenty to play for."

After a crushing 46-44 defeat to the Young Stars at Saddleworth, Heathens got back to winning ways in spectacular fashion with a crushing 58-35 victory over King's Lynn at Perry Barr.

Faultless paid maximums from Max Clegg and Matt Williamson were backed up by several more impressive displays as Heathens claimed 13 races out of 15.

Meanwhile, the club's move to sign experienced rider David Mason has fallen through. Heathens had verbally agreed a deal with the racer, who has been sidelined since suffering a broken leg riding for Eastbourne in June.

However, after meeting with his specialist he has been told he is not yet ready to resume racing.

Tivi to face rivals in FA Cup derby

Page 39

Rondon good in Baggies victory

Page 39

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## Gloves off in battle for number one



Albion new man Anders Lindegaard

NEW-BOY Anders Lindegaard is relishing the competition at Albion as he sets his sights on claiming the No.1 jersey.

The goalkeeper, signed from Manchester United, has been brought in by Tony Pulis to put pressure on Boaz Myhill and regular No.1 Ben Foster, who is due to return from injury in a month.

Lindegaard, who was restricted to just 29 total appearances during a four-and-a-half year stay at Old Trafford, is under no illusions as to the challenges ahead but is eager to get started and begin making his case for a first-team place.

### Football

"There is competition for places but I am coming here to do the best I can and help the club as much as possible," he said. "It is a great opportunity and I am thankful to the club for getting it all sorted."

"I want the club to do well and I want to do well myself – hopefully get a lot of games under my belt."

Baggies boss Tony Pulis turned his attentions to the 31-year-old after cooling interest in Cardiff City's David Marshall.

# DIOP DOUBLE DEFEATS YELTZ

Sutton Coldfield 3 Halesowen 0

**NEW signing Mo Diop hit a brace as Sutton Coldfield swept aside a disappointing Halesowen 3-0 on Bank Holiday Monday.**

The Yeltz made a shaky defensive start as Danny O'Callaghan struck the crossbar in the 10th minute.

Halesowen's best chance fell just three minutes later when Jean-Michel Gueyes made a dangerous run down the right and crossed for George McGee to side-foot a great chance over the bar.

Visiting goalkeeper Matt Sargeant then did well to tip the ball over the top from Phil Trainer's 25-yard effort before making another fine save to deny O'Callaghan after 24 minutes.

The Royals took a deserved lead in the 34th minute when O'Callaghan found space down the right and crossed for Diop to slot home.

Halesowen changed formation at the interval with a double substitution but the visitors made no further impression in the second half.

French striker Diop – just signed from Nuneaton – scooped over the bar in the 49th minute but soon steered home his second goal after being set up by O'Callaghan once again on the hour.

The Royals coasted towards their first victory since promotion and former Yeltz midfielder Aaron Forde made it a comprehensive 3-0 after 75 minutes with a low skidding shot.

**Halesowen Town 2 Workington 0**

Manager John Hill praised his team's hard work in bouncing back to winning ways after Greg Pearson and Isaac Cooper scored their first Halesowen goals.

The Yeltz took the lead just eight minutes in when Joe Hull headed on Jay Denny's free-kick for Pearson to turn and fire past Alex Mitchell from close range.

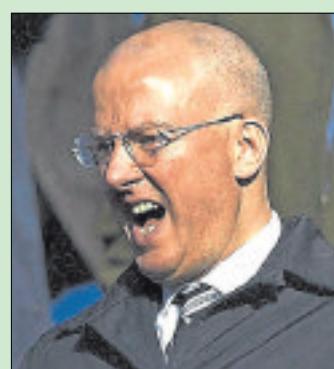
The second goal in the 73rd minute owed much to the perseverance of substitute Cooper after he forced Joshua Calvert into a mistake and further confusion with goalkeeper Mitchell allowed him to nip in and slot home.

Substitute Connor Collins almost touched home a third after good work from Gueyes and a speculative 35-yard shot from Cooper beat Mitchell but rebounded back off the crossbar.

## Peace talks over Saido stand-off



Unsettled Baggies striker Saido Berahino



Alton Chairman Jeremy Peace

ALBION are seeking to repair the damage after an explosive transfer deadline day which plunged striker Saido Berahino's future into serious doubt.

Having rejected two previous bids from Tottenham for the 22-year-old, the Baggies turned down two further offers in the closing hours of the window, prompting an incredible outburst from the striker on social media.

Berahino appeared to suggest, via a Twitter posting, that he would never play for the club again under chairman Jeremy Peace.

That was after Peace had rejected a fourth and final offer from Spurs, thought to be in the region of £23million but with an initial payment of just £5million, with the rest coming in instalments and add-ons.

Albion are likely to take their time before deciding on the next course of action against the striker. Peace issued a statement on Tues-

day evening stressing the need for the club to "repair the damage" done by Tottenham's unwanted interest. And he hit out the tactics used by Tottenham counterpart Daniel Levy.

"We have a key player who has been very unsettled by antics which were designed to get him out of our club cheaply," said Peace.

"Those tactics have continued despite my making our position clear in my first conversation with Daniel Levy on this subject in mid-August."

Berahino's outburst was by far the biggest talking point of an otherwise quiet deadline day for the club, which featured no new arrivals – though £10million flop Brown Ideye joined Joleon Lescott in heading through the exit door. The 26-year-old Nigeria international joined Olympiakos for around £4m, ending a frustrating 14 months, in which he scored seven times in 31 games.

Fans praised as Lescott leaves club

CENTRAL defender Joleon Lescott thanked Albion's fans for their support after completing his move to rivals Villa.

Lescott was the only player to move in either direction, in or out of The Hawthorns as he signed a two-year deal with the claret and blues, following a move thought to be worth £2million.

Last season's Supporters Club Player of the Year posted on Twitter: "Would just like to thank the staff, players and fans @WBAFCOfficial who have helped and supported me over the last 12 months."

"I would like to thank the people at West Brom for having me. Hopefully they can see I gave 100 per cent and that is what I intend to do for Villa."

In total, Lescott made 39 appearances for Albion after joining on a free transfer from Manchester City.

Boss Tim Sherwood saw a bid rejected earlier in the summer but maintained his interest in the defender, who has joined his boyhood club.

Sherwood believes Lescott, a two-time Premier League winner will bring much-needed experience to his squad.

"I'm delighted to bring Joleon on board," he said.

"He's a player who has great Premier League experience and he'll be a huge help to the younger members of our squad."

Villa have also agreed a season-long loan deal for Liverpool's Portuguese centre-half Tiago Ilori.

The £1m move could include an option-to-buy.

The signing of 18-year-old Serbian goalkeeper Matija Sarkic from Belgian club Anderlecht was also completed. He joins on a three-year deal for an undisclosed fee.

## Impressive victory over title winners

Crown Green Bowls – Warwick & Worcester Premier Division 1

The George 230 KGV 199

IN a top-of-the-table clash second placed George came up against a KGV side who have already secured the league title.

The George's first four put on 19 shots with wins from Pete Davenport, Mark Street and Paul Greene. Wins from Paddy McGuinness, Stewart Meddings and Neil Hopwood increased the lead to 26 shots. In the back four, Jamie Dunn and Elliot McGuinness completed an impressive 31-shot victory.

**South Staffs Division 1: The Dell 242**

The George 178

Warwick & Worcs Alliance 1: KGV 222

The George 176

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